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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWS PAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed in his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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SECOND EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST LAW OF THE SESSION

General Election Bill Signed by the Governor.

An Act in the Interest of Married Women.

Bill Fixing Salaries of Judges of the Courts.

Eulogies in the House on Judge Thompson.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, January 30, 1874.

SENATE.

The remonstrance of the Society of Friends against the repeal of the Local Option law was presented.

A commission of inspection of the State fisheries was appointed.

The bill authorizing married women owning stocks to transfer the same as if unmarried, passed finally.

General A. T. A. Tarbet, of Paris, France, and R. B. Valentine, Jr., of New York, were appointed Commissioners of Deeds.

Mr. McClure offered an act authorizing county commissioners to offer rewards for the violation of election laws.

The General Election bill was to-day signed by the Speakers of both Houses and the Governor, and is therefore now a law.

HOUSE.

Mr. Newmyer reported favorably a bill fixing the salaries of Judges of the Supreme Court at $9,000; Judges of the Common Pleas in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, $7,000, and of other law Judges at $5,000.

Mr. Brockway—A bill regarding the Interest laws.

Mr. Butler, of Cumberland—To revise the License law.

Mr. Wilcox—To provide for the uniform collection of taxes.

Mr. Thompson—A petition for the passage of a prohibitory law.

The debate on a motion to adjourn over occupied nearly all the morning hour.

Mr. Talley's resolutions of respect to Judge Thompson were called up and eulogies pronounced by Messrs. Butterfield, of Erie; Strohahan, of Mercer; Marshall, of Butler; Little, of Wyoming; Brockway and Speaker McCormick.

District Attorney Bayne and F. M. Magee are here, accompanied by their families.

The House adjourned till to-morrow.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 29, 1874.

The Election law passed both Houses finally to-day, and the vote was almost unanimous in both Houses. The vote in the Senate on concurring in the House amendments was 27 to 2—Bechtel and Chalfant voting no. Messrs. Rutan, White, McClure and Wallace all expressed their convictions that several of the amendments of the House were defective and mischievous; but as any amendment of or resistance to them would delay the bill, perhaps, for a week, and there was an imminent need for its prompt passage, they would not interfere now to prevent concurrence, but would look to future legislation to cure the defects pointed out by them.

I send you a correct copy of the bill. It will be signed by the Speakers of both Houses at Friday's session, and go to the Governor at once. It will, therefore, most probably be a law by the time you lay it before your readers.

Among the amendments made by the House an increase in the number of penalties, as well as in their severity, is notable. So savage was the temper of the House, when putting in these increased penalties, that not one of the members, presuming that there would be no further need of the men employed as election officers, after they had gone through the ordeal of an election, proposed that as soon as the returns were made out and signed, the election officers should be taken out and hung. Fortunately for the election officers the House was not sanguinary enough to go this far; but the sarcasm conveyed by the amendment is a fit comment on the doubts and suspicions conveyed by many of the adopted penalties. If election officers, as a general rule, are to be considered and treated as scoundrels, they would seem to be, in the very nature of the case, worthy of immediate death. It would have been a higher compliment to the average morality of the day to take it for granted that there are *some* honest men left, and that, once in a while, some stray members of that class might chance to get into an election room.

Many of the friends of the new Constitution were infected with the idea that, *prima facie*, the great masses of the people are dangerous members of the community, and especially members of the Legislature and election officers; and it is not surprising that the same suspicious conception runs through the new Election law. For one, I cherish a higher estimate of my fellow citizens, and I am free to say that I have known election officers who were every whit as honest as Mr. Buckalew or Mr. McClure, and who have conducted elections honestly, not through fear of penalties, but because they believed it to be their duty to do so as good citizens. And after all, our main reliance for honest elections hereafter is, and must be, upon the innate integrity of the men who conduct them, and not upon the penalties held *in terrorem* over them. The honest men will not need such restraints, and the dishonest will not heed them, when it serves their purpose to take the risk of defying them.

The House passed the Orphans' Court bill pretty much in the shape in which it incurred the judicial hostility of the *Legal Journal* and its tender, the *Dispatch*. It is horrible to think what fearful consequences the members of that body have incurred by disregarding the legal lore brought to bear upon them in this case; but as they have braved the danger, it only remains to wait for the dread result. The learned Thebans might possibly succeed better in the Senate than they have in the House, and market copies of the *Legal Journal* are now in order for that end of the Capitol.

Both Houses have now appointed committees to report on what changes are necessary in the Capitol building, to accommodate the enlarged Legislature that meets next year. There is a very general repugnance to the idea of undertaking a new building, or an enlargement of the present one, if that can be avoided. The Senate chamber can easily be adapted to the comfortable seating of fifty Senators; but the House chamber is too small for two hundred desks, unless the gallery or lobby is torn out and abandoned. Benches or chairs, without desks, can be arranged, as in the Massachusetts Legislature; but the desks are too necessary a convenience to do without. Mr. Cross is chairman of the House committee, and Mr. Rutan of that in the Senate.

Beyond passing the Orphans' Court bill, the House did nothing except reading bills in place. Of these there was no lack, as you will see by this list:

Mr. Myer, a bill to regulate taxation of corporations.

Mr. Little, a bill to change the venue in civil and criminal cases.

Mr. Thompson (Fayette), one to regulate the extension of borough and township lines.

Mr. Cross, one to provide for an appropriation to the Pennsylvania Lunatic Hospital, Harrisburg.

Mr. Mitchell, one to encourage the further development of the mineral resources of this Commonwealth.

Mr. Hays, a supplement to the act to provide for the incorporation of gas and water companies, approved March 11, 1857.

Mr. Jones, one to further define the powers and duties of justices of the peace of this Commonwealth.

Mr. Allen, one to provide for submitting questions of fact to courts in the trial of causes.

Also, one to secure a more strict accountability of certain public officers in the counties of this Commonwealth.

Mr. Christy, one relating to the transfer of the personal estate of married women.

Also, one fixing the number of jurors in cases of partition of real estate levied on by the sheriff in cases of lunacy and habitual drunkards.

Mr. Webb, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported as committed, Senate bill No. 2, to provide for the payment of the expenses of publishing the new Constitution.

In the Senate, bills were read in place as follows:

By Mr. Warfel, an act to regulate the terms of city, borough, ward and township officers within the Commonwealth. The bill provides that all officers elected on the third Tuesday of February shall hold their offices until the first Monday in April next succeeding the organization of the term to which they would otherwise be entitled under existing laws, and subsequently the term of all such officers elected in February shall commence and terminate on the first Monday in April.

By Mr. Waream, an act to further protect the possession of lands recovered by ejectment.

By Mr. Ermentrout, an act for the protection of farmers in this Commonwealth.

By Mr. Anderson (Allegheny), an act to enable the Auditor General to settle the accounts of the State Printer. The bill recites that as the office of the State Printer was destroyed by fire and was necessarily the depository of a large quantity of paper belonging to the State, and of public documents ordered by and in course of preparation for the heads of departments and Constitutional Convention, but not delivered, the Auditor General is authorized to settle the accounts as if the delivery had been made of the paper and documents, and allow just compensation therefor, proof being first duly made of the quantity, character and ownership thereof.

By Mr. Weakley, an act to regulate tolls on turnpike roads in certain cases. The bill provides that in all cases wherein owners of lands are obliged to pass over turnpike roads, from one portion of their land or buildings to another portion of the same land, owned and other buildings, no toll shall be demanded or charged such owners, their employees and agents, as also on wagons, cattle, swine, etc.

The following bills were passed:

Senate bill No. 13, appropriating $1,000 for the purpose of defraying expenses incident to the investigation of the management of the Soldiers' Orphan School at Cassville.

Senate bill No. 20, relating to the transportation of explosive material.

Senate bill No. 19, to validate acts done by corporations created by the courts before the recording of their charters.

Senate bill No. 15, to establish an insurance department, having been amended, on motion of Mr. Rutan, to provide for the printing of 3,000 copies of the report of the Insurance Commissioner of the State, instead of 500, was laid over.

Senate bill No. 17, relating to affidavits of defense, was passed.

Five thousand copies of the Election law were ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate. They will be ready for distribution early next week.

The Philadelphians, who have an idea that large things are necessarily magnificent and intrinsically right, have had a committee here to urge huge salaries for the judges. They wanted the Chief Justice to get $15,000, the Associates $12,000, and the other Judges of the State $10,000 each. It is easy to be liberal with other people's money; and it is a peculiar Philadelphia monomania that judges ought to have princely salaries. The House Committee, who listened to the grandiloquence of the Philadelphians who favor the Sardanapalus style, seem to have been partially affected by it, for they agree to report a bill to give the Chief Justice $8,000, the other Supreme Judges $8,000 each, and the rest of the law judges of the State $5,000 each. At this rate, with the additional judges that must be created, it will cost $500,000 for judicial salaries alone.

At the risk of being thought niggardly, I will venture to caution the Republican members of the two Houses that the most dangerous thing they can do, for themselves, is an increase of judicial salaries. The public mind, at the present time, is not in the temper for submitting to any increase whatever. What is done, now, must stick for many years to come, and let legislators beware how they increase the public burdens by increasing salaries. The first fruits of high salaries in New York were Barnard and Cardozo, and others of that kidney. As soon as judicial salaries became a prize, bad men reached out for the glittering allurement; and when Pennsylvania happens upon a kindred policy, she will find the same class making active fight for the places that carry fortunes with them.

Under the enlarged judicial system of the State the local Judges will not be overworked, and the present salary of $4,000, outside of Philadelphia and Allegheny, would seem to be ample for the labor performed. At any rate, the people think so; and the Representative who fancies he can afford to disregard public opinion on that subject, will find his mistake, and too late for his own good. The sentiment that forced a repeal of the increase of Congressional salaries is one that cannot be successfully defied, as Ben Butler and Carpetbagger know, if Negley don't; and an increase of judicial salaries, at this time, would be just as unpopular as that, and just as fatal to all engaged in it. SPECIAL.

The following is the correct text of the new Election law, as it passed both Houses:

A Further Supplement to the Act Regulating Elections in this Commonwealth.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That it shall be the duty of each of the Assessors who are required to perform any duties incident to the holding of elections and the registration of voters in the different counties or cities of this Commonwealth, on the first Monday in June of each year, to take up the transcript of the next preceding assessment as transmitted to them by the County Commissioners and proceed to the revision of the same; and for this purpose he shall visit every dwelling house in his district and make careful inquiry if any person whose name is on his list has died or removed from the district, and if so to erase the same therefrom; and whether any qualified voter resides therein whose name is not on his list, and if so, to add the same thereto; and in all cases where a name is added to the list the proper original form to be assessed, and the Assessor shall in all cases ascertain by inquiry upon what ground the person so assessed claims to be a voter; upon the completion of this work it shall be the duty of each Assessor, as aforesaid, to proceed to make out a list in alphabetical order thereof, of the male citizens twenty-one years of age and upwards claiming to be qualified voters in the election district of which he is the Assessor, and opposite each of said names state whether said citizen is or is not a householder, and if he is, the number of his residence, in towns where the same are numbered, with the street, alley or court in which situated, and if in a town where the same have no number, the name of the street, alley or court on which said house fronts, also the occupation of the person, and where he is not a householder, the occupation, place of boarding, and with whom, and if working for another, the name of the employer, and write opposite each of said names the word "voter;" where any person claims to vote by reason of naturalization, he shall exhibit his certificate thereof to the said Assessor, unless he has been for two consecutive years next preceding a voter in said district; and in all cases where the person has been naturalized, the name shall be marked with the letter "N;" and where any person has declared his intentions to become a citizen, and designs to be naturalized before the next election, he shall exhibit the certificate of his declaration of intention, and the name shall be marked "D. I;" and where the person shall be entitled to existing laws to be naturalized, without making a declaration of his intention to be naturalized, and intends to be thus naturalized at the election before the next general election, the name of such person shall be added to the list, and the name of such person shall be marked "I. N.;" where the claim is to vote by reason of being of the age of twenty-one and under twenty-two, as provided by law, the word "age" shall be entered; and if the person has moved into the election district to reside since the last general election, the letter "R" shall be placed opposite the name. It shall be the further duty of such Assessor, immediately upon the completion of the duties herein imposed, to make out a separate list of all new assessments made by him, on the last being completed and the assessment made as aforesaid, the same shall forthwith be returned to the county commissioners.

SEC. 2. The County Commissioners shall immediately add the names on the list of new assessments to the tax duplicate of the ward, borough, township or district in which they have been assessed, and cause duplicate copies of the other list, with the observations and explanations required to be noted as aforesaid, to be made out as soon as practicable, and prior to the first Monday of August in each year, put one copy thereof on the door of or on the house where the election of the respective district is required to be held, and retain the other in his possession for the inspection, free of charge, of any person resident in the said election district who shall desire to see the same; and it shall be the duty of the said Assessor to add, from time to time, on the personal application of any one claiming the right to vote, the name of such claimant, and mark opposite the name "O," "I. N." and immediately assess him, noting, as in all other cases, his occupation, residence, whether a boarder with or housekeeper, if a boarder with whom he boards, and whether naturalized or designing to be, marking in all cases opposite the name the letters "N," "D I" or "I. N." as the case may be; if the person claiming to be assessed be naturalized, he shall exhibit to the Assessor his certificate of naturalization; and if he claims that he designs to be naturalized before the next general election, he shall exhibit the certificate of his declaration of intention, if such previous declaration is required by the laws of the United States. It shall be the duty of the said Assessor to be present at the election house of the said election districts during the two secular days next preceding the day fixed by the third section of this act for returning the lists to the County Commissioners, from ten A. M. to three P. M., and from six P. M. to nine P. M. of each of said days, for the purpose of hearing and acting upon applications to be added under the provisions of this section, or relating to names upon said lists, or that are sought to be placed thereon or struck therefrom; and it shall be his duty to correct said lists by adding thereto the names of persons entitled to vote not already placed thereon or struck therefrom; and it shall be his duty to correct said lists by adding thereto the names of persons entitled to vote not already placed thereon or struck therefrom; and it shall be his duty to correct said lists by adding thereto the names of persons entitled to vote not already placed thereon or struck therefrom; and it shall be his duty to correct said lists by striking therefrom the names or names of persons who may have died or removed from said district; and the said lists shall be open for inspection by any qualified elector of the county or ward in which the election district is situated, as well as by the person claiming to be registered; and the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county, or any law judge thereof, at chambers, on the application of any qualified elector of the ward or county, under oath setting forth a breach of any of the duties imposed on said assessor by this act, in which oath may be made at any time before the day of election, shall call the Assessor and the complainant before it or him, by citation or rule, to show cause, and shall hear the parties and dispose of the subject in a summary manner as to law and justice shall belong, and shall if need be, order the Assessor to correct the registry accordingly; and the said court or judge may enforce such order by attachment as in proceedings for contempt.

SEC. 3. After the assessments have been completed on the sixty-first day before the Tuesday next following the first Monday of November in each year, the Assessor shall, on the following day, make a return to the County Commissioner of the names of all persons assessed by him since the return required to be made by him by the first section of this act, noting opposite each name the observations and explanations required to be noted as aforesaid; and the County Commissioners shall thereupon cause the same to be added to the return required by the first section of this act, and a full and correct copy thereof to be made, containing the names of all persons so returned as resident taxables in said election district, and furnish the same, together with the necessary election blanks, to the officers of the election in such election district, on or before seven o'clock on the morning of the election; and no man shall be permitted to vote at the election on that day whose name is not on said list unless he shall make proof of his right to vote as hereinafter required.

SEC. 4. On the petition of five or more citizens of any election district, setting forth that the appointment of overseers is a reasonable precaution to secure the purity and fairness of the election in said district, it shall be the duty of the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county, all the law judges of the said court able to act at the time concurring, to appoint two judicious, sober and intelligent citizens of the said district, belonging to different political parties, as overseers of election, to supervise the proceedings of election officers thereof, and to make report of the same as they may be required by such court. Said overseers shall be persons qualified to serve upon election boards, and shall have the right to be present with the officers of such election during the whole time the same is held, the votes counted and the returns made out and signed by the election officers, to keep a list of voters if they see proper, to challenge any person offering to vote, and thereupon to him and his witnesses under oath in regard to his right of suffrage at said election, and to examine his papers produced; and the officers of said election shall be required to afford to said overseers so selected and appointed every convenience and facility for the discharge of their duties; and if said election officers shall refuse to permit said overseers to be present and perform their duties as aforesaid, such officer or officers shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, at the discretion of the court; or if the overseers shall be driven away from the polls by violence or intimidation, all the votes polled in such election district may be rejected by the proper tribunal trying a contest under said election, or a part or portion of such votes aforesaid may be counted as such tribunal may deem necessary to a just and proper disposition of the case.

SEC. 5. At all elections hereafter held under the laws of this Commonwealth, the polls shall be opened at seven o'clock A. M. and closed at seven o'clock P. M.

SEC. 6. In all election districts where a vacancy exists by reason of the disqualification of the officer or otherwise, in an election board hereafter to be appointed, or where any new district shall be formed, the Judge or Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county shall, ten days before any general or special election, appoint competent persons to fill said vacancies and to conduct the election in said new districts; and in the appointment of inspectors in any election district both shall not be of the same political party, and the judge of elections shall in all cases be of the political party having the majority of votes in said district as nearly as the said judge or judges can ascertain the fact; and in case of the disagreement of the judges as to the selection of inspectors, the political majority of the judges shall select one of such inspectors and the minority judge or judges shall select the other.

SEC. 7. Whenever there shall be a vacancy in an election board on the morning of an election, said vacancy shall be filled in conformity with existing laws.

SEC. 8. At the opening of the polls at all elections, it shall be the duty of the judges of election for their respective districts to designate one of the inspectors, whose duty it shall be to have in the room the registry of voters, and to make the entries therein required by law, and it shall be the duty of the other of said inspectors to receive and number the ballots presented at said election.

SEC. 9. All elections of the citizens shall be by ballot; every ballot voted shall be numbered in the order in which it shall be received, and the number recorded by the clerks on the list of voters opposite the name of the elector from whom received. And any voter voting two or more tickets, the several tickets so voted shall each be numbered with the number corresponding with the number to the name of the voter. Any elector may write his name upon his ticket, or cause the same to be written thereon, and attested by a citizen of the district. In addition to the oath now prescribed by law to be taken and subscribed by election officers, they shall severally be sworn or affirmed not to disclose how any elector shall have voted, unless required to do so as witnesses in a judicial proceeding. All judges, inspectors, clerks and overseers of any election, held under this act, shall, before entering upon their duties, be duly sworn or affirmed in the presence of each other. The judge shall be sworn by the minority inspector if there shall be such minority inspector, and in case there be no minority inspector, then by a justice of the peace or alderman and the inspectors, overseers and clerks shall be sworn by the judge. Certificates of such swearing or affirming shall be duly made out and signed by the officers so sworn, and attested by the officer who administered the oath. If any judge or minority inspector refuses or fails to swear the officers of election in the manner required by this act, or if any officer of election shall act without being first duly sworn, or if any officers of election shall sit in the room of such without being duly sworn, or if any Judge or minority inspector shall certify that any officer was sworn when he was not, it shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and upon conviction the officer or officers so offending shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 10. On the day of election any person whose name shall not appear on the register of voters, and who claims the right to vote at said election, shall produce at least one qualified voter of the district as a witness to the residence of the claimant in the district in which he claims to be a voter for the period of at least two months immediately preceding the said election, which witness shall be sworn or affirmed, and sub-scribe a written or partly written and partly printed affidavit, stating to the best of his knowledge and belief, when and where he was born, that he has been a citizen of the United States for one month and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that he has resided in the Commonwealth one year, or if formerly a qualified elector or native born citizen thereof, and has removed therefrom and returned, that he has resided therein six months next preceding said election; that he has resided in the district in which he claims to be a voter for the period of at least two months immediately preceding said election; that he has not moved into the district for the purpose of voting therein; that he has, if twenty-two years of age or upwards, paid a State or county tax within two years, which was assessed at least two months and paid at least one month before the election; the said affidavit shall also state when and where the tax claimed to be paid by the affiant was assessed, and when and where and to whom the same was paid, and the tax receipt therefor shall be produced for examination, unless the affiant shall state in his affidavit that it has been lost or destroyed, or that he never received any; and if a naturalized citizen, shall also state when, where and by what court he was naturalized, and shall also produce his certificate of naturalization for examination; but if the person so claiming the right to vote shall take and subscribe an affidavit that he is a native-born citizen of the United States, or if born elsewhere, shall state the fact in his affidavit, and shall produce evidence that he has been naturalized, or that he is entitled to citizenship by reason of his father's naturalization, and shall, further state in his affidavit that he is, at the time of making the affidavit, of the age of twenty-one and under twenty-two years, that he has resided in the United States one month and has resided in the State one year, or if a native-born citizen of the State and removed therefrom and returned, that he has resided therein six months next preceding said election, and that he has resided in the election district two months immediately preceding such election, he shall be entitled to vote, although he may not at which he is in the habit of voting. And affidavits of all persons making such claims, and the affidavits of the witnesses to their residence as aforesaid, shall be preserved by the election board, and at the close of the election they shall be inclosed with the list of voters, tally list and other papers required by law to be filed by the return judge with the Prothonotary, and shall remain on file therein for the Prothonotary's office subject to examination as other election papers are; if the election officers shall find that the applicant possesses all the legal qualifications of a voter he shall be permitted to vote, and his name shall be added to the list of taxables by the election officers, the word "tax" being added where the claimant claims to vote on tax, and the word "age" where he claims to vote on age, and the same words being added by the clerks in each case respectively on the lists of persons voting at such election.

SEC. 11. It shall be lawful for any qualified citizen of the district, notwithstanding the name of his proposed voter is contained on the list of resident taxables, to challenge the vote of such person, whereupon the person offering to vote the right of suffrage as is now required by law shall be publicly made and acted on by the election board, and the vote admitted or rejected according to the evidence; every person claiming to be a naturalized citizen shall be required to produce his certificate of naturalization certificate at the election before voting, except where he has been for five years consecutively a voter in the district in which he offers his vote; and in the vote of such person being received, it shall be the duty of the election officers to write on the back of such certificate the word "voted," with the day, month and year; and if any election officer or officers shall receive a vote on any certificate on which the same certificate, excepting where the same has been produced in the district in which he offers to vote, and the certificate of the declaration of intention, and the name shall be marked "D. I;" and where the person shall be entitled to existing laws to be naturalized, without making a declaration of his intention to be naturalized, and intends to be thus naturalized at the election before the next general election, the name of such person shall be added to the list, and the name of such person shall be marked "I. N.;" where the claim is to vote by reason of being of the age of twenty-one and under twenty-two, as provided by law, the word "age" shall be entered; and if the person has moved into the election district to reside since the last general election, the letter "R" shall be placed opposite the name. It shall be the further duty of such Assessor, immediately upon the completion of the duties herein imposed, to make out a separate list of all new assessments made by him. On the last being completed and the assessment made as aforesaid, the same shall forthwith be returned to the county commissioners.

SEC. 2. The County Commissioners shall immediately add the names on the list of new assessments to the tax duplicate of the ward, borough, township or district in which they have been assessed, and cause duplicate copies of the other list, with the observations and explanations required to be noted as aforesaid, to be made out as soon as practicable, and prior to the first Monday of August in each year, put one copy thereof on the door of or on the house where the election of the respective district is required to be held, and retain the other in his possession for the inspection, free of charge, of any person resident in the said election district who shall desire to see the same; and it shall be the duty of the said Assessor to add, from time to time, on the personal application of any one claiming the right to vote, the name of such claimant, and mark opposite the name "O," "I. N." and immediately assess him, noting, as in all other cases, his occupation, residence, whether a boarder with or housekeeper, if a boarder with whom he boards, and whether naturalized or designing to be, marking in all cases opposite the name the letters "N," "D I" or "I. N." as the case may be; if the person claiming to be assessed be naturalized, he shall exhibit to the Assessor his certificate of naturalization; and if he claims that he designs to be naturalized before the next general election, he shall exhibit the certificate of his declaration of intention, if such previous declaration is required by the laws of the United States. It shall be the duty of the said Assessor to be present at the election house of the said election districts during the two secular days next preceding the day fixed by the third section of this act for returning the lists to the County Commissioners, from ten A. M. to three P. M., and from six P. M. to nine P. M. of each of said days, for the purpose of hearing and acting upon applications to be added under the provisions of this section, or relating to names upon said lists, or that are sought to be placed thereon or struck therefrom; and it shall be his duty to correct said lists by adding thereto the names of persons entitled to vote not already placed thereon or struck therefrom; and it shall be his duty to correct said lists by adding thereto the names of persons entitled to vote not already placed thereon or struck therefrom; and it shall be his duty to correct said lists by striking therefrom the names or names of persons who may have died or removed from said district; and the said lists shall be open for inspection by any qualified elector of the county or ward in which the election district is situated, as well as by the person claiming to be registered; and the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county, or any law judge thereof, at chambers, on the application of any qualified elector of the ward or county, under oath setting forth a breach of any of the duties imposed on said assessor by this act, in which oath may be made at any time before the day of election, shall call the Assessor and the complainant before it or him, by citation or rule, to show cause, and shall hear the parties and dispose of the subject in a summary manner as to law and justice shall belong, and shall if need be, order the Assessor to correct the registry accordingly; and the said court or judge may enforce such order by attachment as in proceedings for contempt.

SEC. 3. After the assessments have been completed on the sixty-first day before the Tuesday next following the first Monday of November in each year, the Assessor shall, on the following day, make a return to the County Commissioner of the names of all persons assessed by him since the return required to be made by him by the first section of this act, noting opposite each name the observations and explanations required to be noted as aforesaid; and the County Commissioners shall thereupon cause the same to be added to the return required by the first section of this act, and a full and correct copy thereof to be made, containing the names of all persons so returned as resident taxables in said election district, and furnish the same, together with the necessary election blanks, to the officers of the election in such election district, on or before seven o'clock on the morning of the election; and no man shall be permitted to vote at the election on that day whose name is not on said list unless he shall make proof of his right to vote as hereinafter required.

SEC. 4. On the petition of five or more citizens of any election district, setting forth that the appointment of overseers is a reasonable precaution to secure the purity and fairness of the election in said district, it shall be the duty of the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county, all the law judges of the said court able to act at the time concurring, to appoint two judicious, sober and intelligent citizens of the said district, belonging to different political parties, as overseers of election, to supervise the proceedings of election officers thereof, and to make report of the same as they may be required by such court. Said overseers shall be persons qualified to serve upon election boards, and shall have the right to be present with the officers of such election during the whole time the same is held, the votes counted and the returns made out and signed by the election officers, to keep a list of voters if they see proper, to challenge any person offering to vote, and thereupon to him and his witnesses under oath in regard to his right of suffrage at said election, and to examine his papers produced; and the officers of said election shall be required to afford to said overseers so selected and appointed every convenience and facility for the discharge of their duties; and if said election officers shall refuse to permit said overseers to be present and perform their duties as aforesaid, such officer or officers shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, at the discretion of the court; or if the overseers shall be driven away from the polls by violence or intimidation, all the votes polled in such election district may be rejected by the proper tribunal trying a contest under said election, or a part or portion of such votes aforesaid may be counted as such tribunal may deem necessary to a just and proper disposition of the case.

SEC. 5. At all elections hereafter held under the laws of this Commonwealth, the polls shall be opened at seven o'clock A. M. and closed at seven o'clock P. M.

SEC. 6. In all election districts where a vacancy exists by reason of the disqualification of the officer or otherwise, in an election board hereafter to be appointed, or where any new district shall be formed, the Judge or Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county shall, ten days before any general or special election, appoint competent persons to fill said vacancies and to conduct the election in said new districts; and in the appointment of inspectors in any election district both shall not be of the same political party, and the judge of elections shall in all cases be of the political party having the majority of votes in said district as nearly as the said judge or judges can ascertain the fact; and in case of the disagreement of the judges as to the selection of inspectors, the political majority of the judges shall select one of such inspectors and the minority judge or judges shall select the other.

SEC. 7. Whenever there shall be a vacancy in an election board on the morning of an election, said vacancy shall be filled in conformity with existing laws.

SEC. 8. At the opening of the polls at all elections, it shall be the duty of the judges of election for their respective districts to designate one of the inspectors, whose duty it shall be to have in the room the registry of voters, and to make the entries therein required by law, and it shall be the duty of the other of said inspectors to receive and number the ballots presented at said election.

SEC. 9. All elections of the citizens shall be by ballot; every ballot voted shall be numbered in the order in which it shall be received, and the number recorded by the clerks on the list of voters opposite the name of the elector from whom received. And any voter voting two or more tickets, the several tickets so voted shall each be numbered with the number corresponding with the number to the name of the voter. Any elector may write his name upon his ticket, or cause the same to be written thereon, and attested by a citizen of the district. In addition to the oath now prescribed by law to be taken and subscribed by election officers, they shall severally be sworn or affirmed not to disclose how any elector shall have voted, unless required to do so as witnesses in a judicial proceeding. All judges, inspectors, clerks and overseers of any election, held under this act, shall, before entering upon their duties, be duly sworn or affirmed in the presence of each other. The judge shall be sworn by the minority inspector if there shall be such minority inspector, and in case there be no minority inspector, then by a justice of the peace or alderman and the inspectors, overseers and clerks shall be sworn by the judge. Certificates of such swearing or affirming shall be duly made out and signed by the officers so sworn, and attested by the officer who administered the oath. If any judge or minority inspector refuses or fails to swear the officers of election in the manner required by this act, or if any officer of election shall act without being first duly sworn, or if any officers of election shall sit in the room of such without being duly sworn, or if any Judge or minority inspector shall certify that any officer was sworn when he was not, it shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and upon conviction the officer or officers so offending shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars, or imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 10. On the day of election any person whose name shall not appear on the register of voters, and who claims the right to vote at said election, shall produce at least one qualified voter of the district as a witness to the residence of the claimant in the district in which he claims to be a voter for the period of at least two months immediately preceding the said election, which witness shall be sworn or affirmed, and sub-scribe a written or partly written and partly printed affidavit, stating to the best of his knowledge and belief, when and where he was born, that he has been a citizen of the United States for one month and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that he has resided in the Commonwealth one year, or if formerly a qualified elector or native born citizen thereof, and has removed therefrom and returned, that he has resided therein six months next preceding said election; that he has resided in the district in which he claims to be a voter for the period of at least two months immediately preceding said election; that he has not moved into the district for the purpose of voting therein; that he has, if twenty-two years of age or upwards, paid a State or county tax within two years, which was assessed at least two months and paid at least one month before the election; the said affidavit shall also state when and where the tax claimed to be paid by the affiant was assessed, and when and where and to whom the same was paid, and the tax receipt therefor shall be produced for examination, unless the affiant shall state in his affidavit that it has been lost or destroyed, or that he never received any; and if a naturalized citizen, shall also state when, where and by what court he was naturalized, and shall also produce his certificate of naturalization for examination; but if the person so claiming the right to vote shall take and subscribe an affidavit that he is a native-born citizen of the United States, or if born elsewhere, shall state the fact in his affidavit, and shall produce evidence that he has been naturalized, or that he is entitled to citizenship by reason of his father's naturalization, and shall further state in his affidavit that he is, at the time of making the affidavit, of the age of twenty-one and under twenty-two years, that he has resided in the United States one month and has resided in the State one year, or if a native-born citizen of the State and removed therefrom and returned, that he has resided therein six months next preceding said election, and that he has resided in the election district two months immediately preceding such election, he shall be entitled to vote, although he may not at which he is in the habit of voting. And affidavits of all persons making such claims, and the affidavits of the witnesses to their residence as aforesaid, shall be preserved by the election board, and at the close of the election they shall be inclosed with the list of voters, tally list and other papers required by law to be filed by the return judge with the Prothonotary, and shall remain on file therein for the Prothonotary's office subject to examination as other election papers are; if the election officers shall find that the applicant possesses all the legal qualifications of a voter he shall be permitted to vote, and his name shall be added to the list of taxables by the election officers, the word "tax" being added where the claimant claims to vote on tax, and the word "age" where he claims to vote on age, and the same words being added by the clerks in each case respectively on the lists of persons voting at such election.

SEC. 11. It shall be lawful for any qualified citizen of the district, notwithstanding the name of his proposed voter is contained on the list of resident taxables, to challenge the vote of such person, whereupon the person offering to vote the right of suffrage as is now required by law shall be publicly made and acted on by the election board, and the vote admitted or rejected according to the evidence; every person claiming to be a naturalized citizen shall be required to produce his certificate of naturalization certificate at the election before voting, except where he has been for five years consecutively a voter in the district in which he offers his vote; and in the vote of such person being received, it shall be the duty of the election officers to write on the back of such certificate the word "voted," with the day, month and year; and if any election officer or officers shall receive a vote on any certificate on which the same certificate, excepting where the same has been produced in the district in which he offers to vote, and the certificate of the declaration of intention, and the name shall be marked "D. I;" and where the person shall be entitled to existing laws to be naturalized, without making a declaration of his intention to be naturalized, and intends to be thus naturalized at the election before the next general election, the name of such person shall be added to the list, and the name of such person shall be marked "I. N.;" where the claim is to vote by reason of being of the age of twenty-one and under twenty-two, as provided by law, the word "age" shall be entered; and if the person has moved into the election district to reside since the last general election, the letter "R" shall be placed opposite the name. It shall be the further duty of such Assessor, immediately upon the completion of the duties herein imposed, to make out a separate list of all new assessments made by him. On the last being completed and the assessment made as aforesaid, the same shall forthwith be returned to the county commissioners.

SEC. 12. If any election officer shall refuse or neglect to require such proof of the right of suffrage as is prescribed in the first section of this act, which this is a supplement, from any person offering to vote whose name is not on the list of assessed voters, or whose right to vote is challenged by any qualified voter present, and shall admit such person to vote without requiring before it such proof, or upon so offending shall upon conviction be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be sentenced for every such offense to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or to undergo an imprisonment not more than one year, or both at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 13. As soon as the polls shall close, the officers of election shall proceed to count the votes cast for each candidate voted for, and make out a full return of the same in triplicate, with a return sheet in addition, for every office to be filled thereat by each candidate shall be given after his or her name, and in full, the number of votes cast for him or her, which shall be signed by all of said officers and certified by overseers, if any, or if not so certified, the overseers and the reason why not, and one of such returns, with one of them, shall write on the back thereof a statement of the number of votes polled at the election or certify the same upon the return sheet given to the judge, which shall contain one list of voters, tally-paper and oaths of officers, and enclosed in envelopes shall be given to the minority inspector. All judges living within twelve miles of the Prothonotary's office, or within twenty-four miles, if their residence be in a town, village or city upon the line of a railroad leading to the county seat, shall, before two o'clock P. M. the day after the election, and all other judges shall before twelve o'clock of the second day after the election, deliver said return, together with return sheet, to the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas of the county, who shall receive the same and file and the day and hour of filing marked thereon, and shall be preserved by the Prothonotary for public inspection. At twelve o'clock on the said second day following any election, the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas shall present the said returns to the said court; in counties where there is no resident President Judge, the Associate Judges shall perform the duties imposed upon the Court of Common Pleas, which shall convene

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1874.

THE merchants of Boston propose to follow New York at once in memorializing Congress against inflation.

GOV. HARTRANFT yesterday signed the new Election law as passed by the Legislature. We print it entire on the first page of this morning's COMMERCIAL.

IN THE convention of the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, now in session in Chicago, the Jewish press of the nation is represented as follows: *Deborah and Israelite*, Cincinnati; *Hebrew Observer*, San Francisco; *Jewish Messenger*, New York; *Jewish Times*, New York; *Hebrew Leader*, New York, and *The Hebrew*, San Francisco.

THE latest "claim" presented to Congress is that of a certain chiropodist for professional services in operating on the feet of soldiers of the Union army during the late war. He only asks the modest sum of forty-six thousand dollars for his arduous and patriotic labors as a corn extractor, and he thinks Congress ought to toe the mark without the least hesitation.

THE thrifty little State of New Jersey is aiding the Centennial enterprise with remarkable energy and unanimity, and the New York *Commercial Advertiser* sensibly suggests that it would be in order for a practical manifestation of sympathy to be offered in that State, other Commonwealths having all wheeled into line in advance of it.

BOSTON is firm in the belief that she forms the hub to which the spokes of the universe are joined. Yet, while a number of other cities in different parts of the country are choosing women for their boards of education, the modern Athens excludes them from such committees altogether. The next step will probably be to get rid of female teachers.

A CORRESPONDENT inquires in what manner ex-Senator H. S. FOOTE acquired the title "Hangman," by which he is best known. Senator JOHN P. HALE fastened this nickname upon him, years ago, when FOOTE was in the Senate, and when he declared in a set speech that if any Northern abolitionist ventured into his State he would assist in hanging him on the nearest convenient tree. Then, as now, he was passionate, reckless and foolish.

A HUNDRED millions to be spent by the nation is the lowest estimate of those who are urging the construction of water and rail routes as the best solution of what BASTIAT calls the problem of civilization—how to get what is produced to where it is to be consumed. It is evident, too, that the great grain-growing States related to the Mississippi valley have entered the national arena determined to be, if possible, "the dictator" of politics and parties. There is sharp work ahead.

NOT a bad idea. Senator HOWE, of Wisconsin, wants a law passed providing that upon the recommittal of a claim which has been once rejected, the claimant shall pay costs; if he appears the third time, he shall be sent to the State prison, and if he comes the fourth time he shall be hanged. Everybody ought to have his proper deserts—and in this manner those of a large number of "claimants" to whom justice would never, else, be done, might possibly be recompensed to them.

THE Attorney General of the State, in an official communication to Major W. B. NEGLEY, President of the Common Council, has decided that "the present Councils *are the legal Councils* of the city of Pittsburgh." He further decides that the present members of Councils "are *not* affected by the question whether the Constitution took effect on the first of January, or at the date of the "Governor's proclamation." This covers the case of School Directors, and all persons who may be in office on the third Tuesday of February next.

THE Secretary of the Council of Foreign Bondholders has addressed a letter to a member of the North Carolina Legislature, offering some general counsel with regard to the management of the State debt, which now amounts to thirty-five million dollars, the largest part of the increase being due to a fraudulent issue of bonds for the benefit of railroad companies in 1868 and 1869. There is a proposition before the Legislature to scale the debt at thirty cents on the dollar, but it seems doubtful whether it will pass. The Old North State appears to be inevitably drifting towards the disgrace of repudiation.

THE other day we made a little innocent sport over the pensioning by the English government of the author of that homeopathic rythmic twaddle, "Proverbial Philosophy," concerning which an Eastern paper sternly observes that the pension is a "merited rebuke to those who have persistently decried his deserts as a literary man." What relation does the amount which JOHN MILTON received from "Paradise Lost," bear to the aggregate sum paid to SYLVANUS COBB for his various "literary" works? The latter is a contributor to the journal under whose displeasure our slight pleasantry has brought us.

THE leading journals of the country, irrespective of party, concur generally in the opinion that the commercial outlook is exceedingly encouraging. A revival of business in all departments is anticipated. Factories are gradually resuming operations and producing fabrics at a fair profit. The banks are in a sound condition. The crops have been good, and the farmers show a greater disposition to organize for the purpose of self-improvement and instruction in the principles of thorough, systematic farming, than they ever manifested before. On the whole, the resources of the country are everywhere rapidly recovering their natural impetus.

COL. MCCLURE'S acceptance of the Democratic nomination for the Philadelphia Mayoralty, was in this heroic wise: "The people have formed their own lines and ordered an advance. Say to them that I will not be found in the rear."

"IS PATRICK O'FLANNIGAN on board this ship?" cried great NELSON from his quarterdeck, during a temporary lull in the terrific cannonading of the battle of the Nile. "He is, your HONOR," was the response that came from a man in a red flannel shirt and blue overalls, who at that moment stuck his head through the hatchway. "Is PATRICK O'FLANNIGAN on board this ship?" said NELSON in still louder tones than before. "He is, your riverence, and I am that man." "Then let the battle go on," responded NELSON. And it was won.

NOTWITHSTANDING that Maryland failed to elect a Republican United States Senator the other day, she is fast ridding herself of the producing causes of past Democratic ascendancy. She is building a greater number of school houses than in any former year, and yet the demand for more and better houses is still on the increase. There is also more inquiry for experienced and well qualified teachers, and a greater willingness to pay them adequate salaries. Several new high schools have been established; some academies on the old foundation have been transformed into public high schools; everywhere the spirit of intelligent quest is actively abroad. Only let her maintain her present rate of fundamental progress, and her future will be as noble as the noblest ambition could desire.

MEMBERS of Congress, like other people, are of course entitled alike to the possession and expression of their opinions. But they are by no means privileged to desecrate the halls of the National Legislature with blasphemous references to the DEITY, in the public speeches which they may see fit to make. Congressman NESMITH, of Oregon, may avail himself to the full of his constitutional prerogative to make a fool of himself, and no one will be inclined to dispute his right any more than to deny his success; but when—in speaking of the Indian question—he exchanges his accustomed *role* of the buffoon for that of the impious profaner of Holy Names, he must be taught that, however destitute he may himself be of ordinary conceptions of decency and propriety, the people of the country do not, by any means, propose to submit to the shameful outrage without indignant remonstrance. And the House—to its dishonor—"laughed" at the hideous irreverence of this man NESMITH—when every tongue should have blazed instantly with stern and hot rebuke. Let us have no more of this foul sacrilegiousness.

JUST as we expected. Immediately following the election in New York last fall, the Tammany Hall leaders made a great hue-and-cry against the Republican Police Commissioners, charging that they had made an unsuccessful attempt to count out several of their elected candidates for the Legislature and other positions. They called an indignation meeting, made charges of attempted fraud, and appointed lawyers to investigate them and institute prosecutions against the Commissioners. For weeks afterward boasts were made by the Tammany papers as to what was going to be done, and the credulous public was really made to believe that rascality had been attempted by the Republicans after the manner of the whilom Democratic ballot-box stuffers, repeaters and shoulder-hitters. The counsel employed for the purpose took countless reams of testimony and made a great flourish of trumpets; but now, after the lapse of three months, no steps looking to a prosecution have been undertaken, and the whole matter has to all intents and purposes been dropped; showing that the charge was gotten up simply for political effect, and that the unscrupulous politicians who have been guilty of systematic frauds for so many years, hoped to transfer a portion of the odium to Republican shoulders.

THE DANGEROUS CLASSES.

In all large cities there are classes known, in contradistinction from other and better people, as "the dangerous classes." They consist of gamblers, lottery swindlers, thieves, and all those varied sorts and conditions of men who prey upon the community and render life and property insecure.

Philadelphia contains her share of these dangerous classes; and it is the highest possible compliment to Mayor STOKLEY that he has so fearlessly executed the laws as to bring down upon his head their deadly hostility. He has done his best to break up gambling and lottery swindling; he has maintained public order with a strong and firm hand, rendering the streets of the city secure, and all parts of it safe and quiet. Never, in all its history, has that city been under such secure and peaceful control; and while it is not marvelous that the repressed classes, who have been so thoroughly kept under by him, should be opposed to his re-election, it is marvelous that every friend of law and order should not at once rally to his support.

In New York the dangerous classes abound, and they center around Tammany as naturally as the magnet points to the pole. Instinctively, they know who are their best friends, and who can be relied upon to help and protect them. When Tammany was under the sway of TWEED, these classes were uppermost in New York. They were the rulers instead of the ruled; and the terrible condition into which her affairs were plunged by them, is an evidence of the peril that attends any civil administration that is either controlled or influenced by them.

And just as naturally as these people in New York cluster around and become a part of Tammany, do they in Philadelphia gather about the Democratic organization. They are all against STOKLEY, because he makes it too hot and uncomfortable for them; and they are all for MCCLURE, not because he, personally, has anything in common with them, but because they find a natural and congenial refuge in the organization that support him. It is even alleged in the cant phraseology of the gang, that they are "putting up the stuff" for MCCLURE'S success; but whether this be true or false, they are heartily supporting him.

We do not judge Mr. MCCLURE by the people who sustain him; but it is no credit to him, or to the organization that has made him its candidate, that the men who make war and prey upon society should be a distinguishable element in his support. They have no pledges, and it would be hard to say, definitely, upon what they base their expectations; but it is plain that they think they know what they are about, and that they have chosen their political associations with an eye single to their own interests. They may be grossly mistaken in their judgment, and we hope that they are, for the sake of the good opinion we entertain personally for Mr. MCCLURE; but it is safer for Philadelphia to choose for her Mayor the man whom these classes instinctively oppose than the one whom they instinctively support.

We have said that the opposition of these classes to Mr. STOKLEY is the highest possible compliment that could be paid to his honesty, energy and efficiency. And so it is. It shows that he has been fearless; that he is not a truckler to secure votes; that he loves order, peace and security; and that he is able to rule firmly and wisely, without ostentation or parade. A man of this high character is not easily found, and when found should be retained. The days are near at hand when Philadelphia, overflowing with visitors from all parts of the world, will need just such a Mayor as Mayor STOKLEY, and just such a firm administration of the laws as he has secured; and in that hour of her supreme need, she will be fortunate if she then has the help of his velvet-gloved but iron hand. If that city knows when she is well off she will lre-elect him. He has been a faithful servant, and deserves this reward; and the Centennial will be shorn of half its glory if the law-abiding and peace and order-loving spirit of 1776 is not revivified and kept in force by his re-election.

HERBERT SPENCER ON CRIME.

Readers of the writings of Mr. HERBERT SPENCER, with whatever adverse prejudices they may take them up, can hardly fail to form a high estimate of the intellect and knowledge of the author. At the same time, it is equally true that unless readers of his writings are controlled by very strong prejudices in his favor, unless they have already, as the result of his brilliant reputation among a certain limited class, learned to regard him as the author of a new gospel to be accepted with gratitude and without careful scrutiny, they can hardly fail to wonder at the facility with which he gets rid of inconvenient obstructions in the line of his philosophical march. Mr. SPENCER'S latest publication is a little book on "The Study of Sociology," which was intended and is likely to be more popular than any of the larger works by which the author has become known. It was designed to be a sort of introduction to an extensive work on the "Principles of Sociology" which Mr. SPENCER is preparing, but it is, in fact, made to comprehend a good many topics which were probably never before thought of by anybody as being directly or indirectly included in the subject of sociology. As intimated in the preface, the author has made this preliminary volume the medium through which to publish various material which had accumulated on his hands because he could find no place for its use in former books. Apparently from his early youth accustomed to take for granted that the doctrines generally received were most likely erroneous, that prevalent prejudices were most likely foolish, and that actual customs had most likely no root in reason, Mr. SPENCER'S mind naturally, in the course of time, became an immense depository of facts and arguments which seemed to justify his antagonism. That in this statement we do not place the beginning of his opposition too early, may be fairly inferred from the complacency with which in this little book he boasts of "having, when young, effectually resisted that classical culture," which has for so many centuries in Christendom been deemed a needful element in education. Nor has he ever had any misgivings as to the wisdom of his "resistance." With evident pride he confesses that he "knows absolutely nothing of the masterpieces of ancient literature in the original and very little in translation." In itself considered, the fact may be in no way discreditable to Mr. SPENCER. As a metaphysician or philosopher and organizer of the sciences he may have felt no need of a knowledge of antiquity. And yet doubtless there are in his writings paragraphs not a few which he neither could nor would have written if his penetrating intellect and extensive knowledge of modern science had been reinforced by familiarity with the history and speculations of ancient men.

Then, when a professed philosopher and teacher of his kind so frankly proclaims his ignorance of antiquity in its literary sources, does the confession raise or confirm the presumption that he has mastered the history and social and political institutions of medieval and modern men? And whatever his accomplishments as a philosopher may be, it would really seem that a man not adequately furnished with such knowledge, has a poor prospect of producing a very useful work on sociology, no matter how many able coadjutors he may employ to collect and systematize facts for him.

It may, however, be plausibly alleged that a profound knowledge of human nature in all its recesses, and perfect familiarity with the living world of various nationalities, afford more trustworthy guidance in the treatment of social questions than any light derivable from the past. And that Mr. SPENCER has vast knowledge of that kind, it would be very foolish to deny. Indeed, as one reads the little book on the "Study of Sociology," one is every now and then tempted to believe that the author is the only writer of the time, or even of all time, who sees things as they really are, and not only as they appear. In truth, any one who unresistingly accepts the author's criticisms of his countrymen's opinions and prejudices, hopes and apprehensions, can hardly help concluding that Mr. SPENCER is almost the only wise man in Great Britain, while all the others are mere slaves to the "shows of things." On reflection, however, it becomes manifest that Mr. SPENCER often derives his notions of the views and expectations of others, not from their own account of them, but from the depths of his own moral consciousness, whence the famous German philosopher threw his knowledge of the camel. Take, for example, his diatribe on the present zeal with which Englishmen agitate the subject of popular education. Mr. SPENCER derides all those who quote statistics to show that education prevents crime. They rely, he says, on "statistical fallacies," and forget to ask "whether other statistics, similarly drawn up, would not prove, with like conclusiveness, that crime is caused by absence of ablutions, or by lack of clean linen, or by bad ventilation, or by want of separate bedrooms." Ignorance, argues Mr. SPENCER, like the other conditions named, is merely a "concomitant of crime," and that mere intellectual culture would make no change in the relation. Crime, he says, is "really connected with an inferior mode of life, itself usually consequent on original inferiority of nature."

It is safe to say that no American or Englishman accustomed to attend church failed to hear among the earliest teachings of the pulpit that mere knowledge or mere training of the intellect never has and never will make men virtuous or prevent crime. In religious circles it is a truism. But it is equally true that knowledge, education is a positively useful possession which, as far as it goes, may serve to relieve the condition of its possessor, and so far place him above the temptations in which crime is constantly originating. Both the Secularists and the Denominationalists to whom Mr. SPENCER alludes, also include moral instruction in their conception of education, and education intellectual and moral is certainly the only means known or conceivable of reaching and bettering "the original inferiority of nature" in which crime is assumed to originate.

Mr. SPENCER in his criticism ignores the fact that there are abundant statistics in which pains have been taken to eliminate or make sufficient allowance for other elements, and from which the conclusion is inevitable that mere illiteracy is a most fruitful source of crime. In New England where only seven per cent. of the population above the age of ten years are unable to read and write, eighty per cent. of all the crimes is committed by the ignorant seven per cent. The statistics of New York, Pennsylvania and other States exhibit the same significant fact. In all these cases Mr. SPENCER'S suggestion that ignorance is only one of many conditions existing together and constituting "an inferior mode of life" which favors crime, is sufficiently met with the familiar fact that, in the United States, where other circumstances favor, education received by boys most disadvantageously placed as regards birth and breeding, enables them, as a rule, honestly to rise above their class and to become useful citizens.

CONNECTICUT being one of the first States in each year to hold a general election, a considerable degree of interest is felt throughout the country in political movements there; and this interest has increased of late years on account of the closely balanced condition of parties in the State. The approaching April election, therefore, is exciting a good deal of attention in political circles. The Democracy appear to think they have secured permanent control of the State government, but Republicans say there has not been a time in five years when there was a more favorable opportunity to elect a Republican Governor than is now approaching, provided, of course, that the party nominates a good ticket throughout and supports it with something of the old fashioned zeal—and there is no earthly reason why there should not be perfect harmony in the ranks. The election of a Democratic Governor and Legislature last year was owing, not to Democratic conversions, but local feuds and dissensions among Republicans. These causes will not be combined again; and if the close and doubtful towns are carefully looked after, there should be no difficulty in the way of making both branches of the General Assembly Republican, and there is a strong incentive to do all that can be done in that direction, as a United States Senator is to be chosen in place of Senator BUCKINGHAM.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Isn't it about time for some one to find some cherry-tree blossoms, or honeysuckles, or peachblows in their back yards, and send the fact to the newspapers?

The Brooklyn Presbytery frowns upon the attempt of women to teach godliness.

That famous Connecticut "cow fund" is reported as "swelling rapidly," and pretty soon the lawyers will be squealing around its udder with their milk-pails.

The New York *World* attributes everything that happens to the tariff, just as old army surgeons used to ascribe all ailments among the soldiers to scurvy.

An illiterative Missouri paper calls the discussion about the state entomologist the "bugological buncombe of bucolic bummers."

A mania for pet dogs afflicts a Chicago wife, and though her husband has used up seven thousand dollars togratify it, she is still dogmatic and unsatisfied.

A colored politician named Ham, aspires to succeed Governor Ames in the United States Senate from Mississippi, and some of the white candidates are crying, Shem!

The brain of that Louisville paper which regards us so kindly, is capable of great development.

Ruskin complains that he is left utterly stranded and alone in life and thought, and Susan B.'s attention is respectfully invited to the fact.

In a village in New York lives John Lapp, a shoemaker, who leads the choir in the one church of the place. Between the lapstone and Lapp's tone, Lapp makes quite a comfortable living—in fact, is lapped in the lap of plenty.

The first Pullman sleeping car has been introduced into England. God save Britania! She is to be fleeced at the rate of two dollars a night for a rickety bed as well as Miss Columbia!

Maryland is not wise in spending $40,000 a year on colleges and academies from which women are excluded, and only $5,000 for the exclusive education of young women.

The Hoosiers like work when it is disguised as fun. The other day twenty of them handled over thirty-five cords of wood to get at a rabbit, which escaped after all.

The railroad companies of Minnesota have received in land grants over thirteen millions of acres of land, or more than one-quarter of the entire State. And yet they are not happy.

According to the New York *Times*, the street railways of that city are in arrears for unpaid license fees to the amount of about $400,000, which they should be made to pay instanter.

The female suffragists are rejoicing over the announcement that Chief Justice Waite is an advocate of the great idea for which they are contending. But a Chief Justice does not always give opinions from the bench which coincide with his private views.

The Glass Interest.

BOSTON, MASS., January 26, 1874.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

In the *Labor Tribune* of the 17th inst., I notice an article on "The Glass Question," which was interesting to me as showing the different views on the "labor element" as held by the employer and employed. Some statistics are there given which claim to show the profits of the business, and a challenge is thrown out to disprove their correctness. I accept that challenge, and confine myself to the figures given in the *Tribune*. While the writer claims to show the profits and gives minute figures to show the cost of a month's running of a window glass factory, he does not give the market value of the product of that month, so he really shows nothing as to the profits. While we think he commenced in good faith and really meant to strike a balance, we think his figures showed such an evident balance on the wrong side that he, wisely for his argument, dropped them entirely. Let us look at his figures, and try to supplement them by giving the other side:

Interest on $50,000	$ 250 00
Sand	564 00
Lime	187 72
Salt	10 00
Soda ash	2,573 00
Coal	624 00
Boxes and packing	1,000 00
Straw	60 00
Iron	28 00
Wood	60 00
Blowing, block wood	25 00
Pots	250 00
Furnace, average cost per month	100 00
Flattening stones and clay work	80 00
Business department	600 00
Labor and teams	1,573 29
Gatherers	1,920 00
Manager	100 00
Blowing, flattening and cutting	2,295 25
Interest on $50,000 working capital	416 66
Master teaser	150 00

The writer divides the cost of a month into twenty-one items, and makes the total cost for running a window glass factory for one month a trifle over $12,000. We shall not dispute these figures. But he does not say what was produced as the result of this expenditure of $12,000, nor give its market value. If he had, we might form some idea of the profits or loss. Let us look upon this side of the question. In another column of the same copy of the *Tribune* we learn that the average production of a Pittsburgh glass factory is 400 boxes a week, or 1,600 boxes a month. If these 1,600 boxes cost $12,000, we readily see that the average cost of a box of glass of 100 feet is $7 50. So it is very plain to see that the profits are what the manufacturer can realize above the $7 50 per box. Now, will the *Tribune* show any manufacturer of Pittsburgh that has realized $7 50 a box for his glass during the past two years? If he can, he must have found a market unknown to the rest of the trade. The Pittsburgh manufacturer cannot expect to realize more for his glass than the importer for the French or Belgian. In fact, the foreign will always take the market at the same price. Now, we have before us a list of the cost of the foreign glass *after all duties and expenses are paid in the stores of any of our seaport cities.* The average cost of the foreign, corresponding to Pittsburgh first quality, is $6 44 for all sizes up to 24×36, for second quality, it is $5 98 per 100 feet. But as every glass dealer knows more than half of the product of any concern is below twelve-twelfths in size, and all this is laid down at a cost not exceeding $6 75 for first and $5 25 for second. These are solemn figures for the Pittsburgh glassblower to contemplate, but so long as his Belgium brother will work for wages that will enable the importer to buy at these figures, he must make up his mind to take less or quit work and give the market to the Belgians.

MASSACHUSETTS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BARNES'S NOTES. Ephesians, Phillippians, and Colossians. By Rev. Albert Barnes, author of "Notes on the Psalms," "Lectures on the Evidences of Christianity," etc. Revised edition. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York. For sale by Gildenfenney & Hess, Pittsburgh.

Mr. Barnes, though dead, "still speaketh," through his excellent "Notes." They are explanatory and practical. In these days, when helps to the better understanding of the Scriptures are so numerous, this work has pre-eminently stood forth, for its practical excellencies. These "Notes" are a real help to the Bible student, and the immense sale of the work attests its popularity and adaptation for the study of the Scriptures. This volume forms one of the series which Mr. Barnes carefully revised previous to his death. His liberal and charitable view of some mooted theological questions, has rendered him a favorite among all evangelical bodies.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH INSTITUTIONS. By Phillip Vernon Smith, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. For sale by R. S. Davis & Co., Pittsburgh.

Works of this character are of incalculable value to the student of history, and provides matter that otherwise would cost much time and expense to ascertain. This volume forms one of an admirable series of "historical handbooks." The materials have been chiefly derived from the larger works which treat of the English Constitution, and are of that character as to lead the student to seek to acquire fuller information from those more ample sources. The history is divided into six great periods, extending from the settlement of the Angles and Saxons to the year 1872, and consists of three parts. 1. Social and local development of the Constitution. 2. Constituents of central authority, and 3. Central government. The chronological table, index and glossary, etc., will aid the student greatly. The plan of the work and its terse character are excellent features, showing the author's power of condensing much in little. It is all it claims to be, a "History of the English Institutions."

THE MOONSTONE. A novel. By Wilkie Collins. With illustrations. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York. For sale by Gildenfenney & Hess, Pittsburgh.

Previous volumes have been favorably noticed of "Harper's Illustrated Library Edition" of Wilkie Collins's novels, for their handy size, neat typography and cheapness. "The Moonstone" is a story of thrilling interest, and shows the influence of character on circumstances. Every character is outlined with artistic skill, and the plot of the story indicates the wonderful talents of the author in its construction. He is in the best sense a literary artist, and takes the reader captive at the outset.

THE MEMOIRS OF VIDOCQ, Chief of the French Police. An Autobiography. Published by T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia. For sale by Gildenfenny & Hess, Pittsburgh.

The wonderful exploits of Vidocq seem to have an air of impossibility, and yet the facts and circumstances, so powerfully described, give some room to be believed. No description of its contents will give an idea of his daring escapes and adventures, covering, too, a remarkable period of France.

SCHOOL COMPOSITION: Being Advanced Language Lessons for Grammar Schools. By Prof. Wm. Swinton, A. M., author of "Progressive Grammar," &c. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York. For sale by Gildenfenny & Hess, Pittsburgh.

Very recently we noticed favorably "Swinton's Progressive Grammar." The author's design is to provide for school children between the ages of twelve and fifteen a school manual of prose composition, arranged on a simple and natural plan, to learn the art of writing good English, for the ordinary uses of life. The plan of the work commences with the first stage, of study and gradually ascends the scale of development of rules and principles. It is an excellent work and reveals the strong and commendatory features of the author's previous publications.

THE BEST OF ALL GOOD COMPANY. By Blanchard Jerrold. First series. Published by Shepard & Gill, Boston. For sale by J. W. Pittock & Co., Pittsburgh.

It was a happy thought of Mr. Jerrold to prepare this work, and the selection of writers will be gratifying to thousands of their admirers. Charles Dickens, Walter Scott, W. M. Thackeray, and Douglass Jerrold still hold a large place in the mind of every lover of high-toned literature. The first part, "A Day with Charles Dickens," opens with a tribute to his memory, followed with a picture of his life, as a speaker, the moral of his life and his bequest to posterity, and his works. It is full of dainty passages, and gives a fine specimen of the great novelist's descriptive genius as a writer. The paper on Walter Scott presents the remarkable elements of character in his childhood, eminent literary work, and gives extracts from his works. "A Day with Thackeray" reveals his genius in his letters, success as a speaker, with a glowing sketch of his life and works, and extracts from the same. In the fourth and last part, "A Day with Douglass Jerrold," we have an introductory memoir, followed with a biography of the great humorist, his forte as a speaker and writer, with specimens of his memorable sittings. Rarely have we found so much to admire in a literary production. It sparkles throughout with gems and elegant satire.

DIAMONDS AND PRECIOUS STONES, A POPULAR ACCOUNT OF GEMS. Translated from the French of Louis Dieulafait, Professor of Physics, Doctor of Sciences. By Fanchon Sanford. Illustrated. Published by Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York. For sale by J. W. Pittock & Co., Pittsburgh.

Valuable information is imparted in this work for the scientific, as well as general reader. Some curious facts are brought to light that will interest and instruct the reader. It gives a history, distinctive properties and a description of the most famous gems, gem cutting and engraving, and the artificial production of real and of counterfeit gems. The author seeks to give information of a general character, and outside of the domain of science, and the uses to which precious stones were used in former times especially, with instances of fables and superstitions relative to precious stones. Some space is devoted to crystallography, and to an *expose* of counterfeit precious stones, methods of producing precious stones, etc. The illustrations are numerous and well calculated to present facts. The reader will be surprised to find so much information relative to diamonds and precious stones, as is found in this excellent work. The book is nicely printed.

SANTA CLAUS'S LAND. By Amanda M. Douglas. Illustrated.

CHILD WORLD. By Gail Hamilton. Illustrated. Published by Shepard & Gill, Boston. For sale by J. W. Pittock & Co., Pittsburgh.

These pretty children's books are just the thing to interest the little folk. Both are admirably adapted to attract and interest children. "Child World" is charmingly written by a charming writer. It is couched in language simple and high-toned. "Santa Claus's Land" is a beautiful description of the pranks of old Santa Claus. These books are nicely gotten up in holiday attire, and admirably suited for gift-books. They are, however, seasonable for any period of the year, and deserve to be widely read.

PERSONAL.

The family and friends of Miss Nellie Grant are very much amused at the unceremonious manner in which sundry writers for the press have given her away in marriage. They engage her indiscriminately to civilians, military and other officials, and now they have disposed of her to a foreigner with a title. All these rumors have no foundation whatever.

The marriage of Colonel John Hay, of the New York *Tribune*, to Miss Clara Stone, daughter of Amasa Stone, of Cleveland, managing director of the Lake Shore road, is announced to take place soon.

Here is a picture of Secretary Belknap by a Washington scribbler: "He looks like John Rolfe in the honeymoon with Pocahontas. His flesh, colors and looks of boyish laziness are all in the style of Reubens—yellowish beard with autumn in it and pippin apples, brown corn, pumpkins, nuts and everything eatable. It is a beard to go after chincapins in. His eyes have the blueness of a sky under which boys are all day playing truant. He is athletic as the God Mars after a furlough in the fishing season."

A trial that will be watched with great interest by henpecked husbands is soon to take place at Baltimore. A woman of that city has been arrested on the charge of being a common scold. The laws of Maryland make no provision for the punishment of such an offense, and she is to be tried under the old English common law. The defence such an offense as boring a hole through the tongue.

Mrs. Hardy, a niece of General Warren, who fell at the battle of Bunker Hill, died recently in California, at an advanced age.

One of the colored members of the Georgia Legislature has eloquence of a very high order. He is spoken of as "a colored Robert Collyer, having all the earnestness and pathos of the Yorkshire blacksmith, with more natural dramatic talent."

Of course the Washington ladies are getting interested in Mrs. Waite, and of course the accounts are not so favorable as those we have of the husband. She is reported to be extravagantly fond of dress and society. She is not handsome, but does well not make much difference there, unless she puts on airs, and then she will be upbraided for that over which she can least help herself—beauty of person.

The most strenuous efforts are being made to secure the pardon of Page McCarty, the survivor of the McCarty-Mordecai duel, from the Governor of Virginia. The petition is signed by nearly the whole State Legislature and by a number of the leading citizens of Richmond.

ALTERNATIVE.

BY EMMA SURT.

Sweetheart, 'tis true—the sea is wide—so wide—
And true it is that interests beside
As deep and wide as seas may interpose:
What cares the coming years evolve—God knows—
To crowd me from your heart. Go free, go free:
Free as the winds that sweep across your sea.
I hold you not: The universe of thought,
Of beauty, light and tenderness besought
Of you; indeed, indeed, I hold you not.
One day the measure of your soul I caught
Like mountain cleft—revealing vales below.
Do I forget? I, wondering, looked, and lo!
I saw therein one crowned; and yet, and yet,
I hold you not—remember or forget.
No realm I ask to suffrage crave forsooth;
No homage seek—save that of simple truth:
If spirit calls to spirit there will be
Dominion wider than eternity.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

Rev. J. H. Hull, President Pittsburgh Conference, Methodist Church, will preach at Grace Church, Sharpsburg, on Sabbath.

The revival at Bingham street Methodist Episcopal Church, still continues.

An interesting meeting has been in progress for some time, in the Third United Presbyterian Church, Allegheny City, Rev. Bain, pastor.

Quite a religious interest is being felt in the First Methodist Church, South Side, Rev. Lucas, pastor. A number have united with the church.

The good work of revival is prevailing in East Common Methodist Church, Rev. J. L. Simpson, pastor. Mr. Simpson is earnestly engaged in the work.

The meeting in McKeesport station Methodist Episcopal Church closed last night. During the meeting over one hundred professed religion, eighty-five united with the church on probation, and six by letter.

The meeting at Kramer Methodist Episcopal Church, Steubenville, Ohio, continues with increasing interest. Between seventy and eighty have united with the church, and many have professed conversion. The house is crowded every night.

The "social" of the First Methodist Church, Pittsburgh, Dr. Murray, pastor, at the parsonage, on Thursday night last, was a time of great enjoyment to all concerned.

A revival sweeps forward with unabating interest at Middleburne, Ohio, Methodist Episcopal Church. Eighty-two accessions to that church, and eight or ten to other churches. Convictions are deep and conversions clear. But few have given their names who are not converted. Many heads of families, parents and children.

Sixty-one persons, twenty of them heads of families, have made a profession of Christ, in Fairview Presbyterian Church, West Virginia, while thirteen more have been received on certificate.

The Pope has recovered from his recent indisposition.

Mr. Richard Proctor, the eminent English astronomer, is a convert to the Catholic faith.

The District Conference of the Steubenville District Methodist Episcopal Church will meet at Kramer Chapel, Steubenville, on Tuesday, February 3d.

The Congregational Church at Mount Vernon, Ohio, has chosen Rev. Mr. Billman, late of Omaha, for pastor.

Rev. S. J. Wilson, D.D., of the Allegheny Seminary, will lecture at the First Presbyterian Church, on next Tuesday evening, February 3d. Subject. "John Knox, the Scotch Reformer."

We are sorry to hear that on account of continued ill health, Rev. Abel Kerfoot has been compelled to resign the rectorship of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Twenty-sixth ward.

Rev. R. H. Williamson, of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Wilkesbarre, Pa., has resigned his charge and joined Bishop Cummins's new departure.

Philip Phillips will give a "Service of Song," at Union Church, Allegheny, on Tuesday evening, the 10th of February, for the benefit of the Sunday school of the charge. It is expected the occasion will be one of rare interest.

Rev. J. T. Lattone, rector of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Wheeling, Va., has, in a letter addressed to the Bishop of Virginia, formally withdrawn from the Episcopal Church. The reason assigned is the growing tendency of the body to ritualism. He has not yet united with the Cummins schism.

Rev. Dr. Talmage has announced to his congregation that the new tabernacle in Brooklyn will be dedicated on the 22d of February. Over 225 members have been added to this church within a week past.

Rev. George Dardis, formerly of Union chapel, Cincinnati, now pastor of Union church at New Orleans, has recently received 376 persons on probation, making a total of 855 members.

It is said a grand revival has taken place recently, at which the Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists of Brooklyn all participated.

President Hull has been paying official visits to some of the churches in Pittsburgh and Allegheny. He is able to do much work, and seems to enjoy it. May his health be preserved, and many blessings be the fruit of his labors.

Rev. William Lynch, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Beaver, Pa., has done a good work of revival at his church, following the special services during the "week of prayer," and at last accounts it was extending and influencing very considerably that staid community. Over thirty have been converted, and on Friday evening, the 23d, there were twenty at the altar as "seekers."

Rev. S. F. Simpson, late pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, San Francisco, will join the California Conference at its next session.

Bishop Janes recently expressed the opinion "that the song literature of the modern Sunday school contains one grain of music, one of sense, one of religion, and seven of nonsense. This assertion, severe as it is, contains more truth than fiction.

The New York preachers' meeting, Methodist Episcopal Church, have appointed a committee, consisting of Dr. Curry and two others, to arrange for the purchase of Miss Richards's a life-size portrait of Bishop Simpson, price $1,000, to hang in the Book Room buildings, New York.

Rev. Henry Boehm celebrated his ninety-ninth Christmas, December 25th. He is the oldest Methodist preacher in the world.

The office of *Zion's Herald* was nearly destroyed by fire recently. A fire originated in an adjoining room, but was early discovered and put out by the aid of the seminary students and their engine.

Rev. J. H. Vincent, the Sunday school Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Church, delivered a lecture recently at Albany, N. Y., entitled, "That Boy." The lecture was a decided success and is to be repeated elsewhere.

The home for the orphans of members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Baltimore, founded by the munificence of Mr. Thomas Kelso, has been opened. It has accommodations now for twenty-five, but when fully completed will accommodate one hundred.

The "old Catholic movement," as it is called, with Pierre Hyacinth at its head, is making some progress, but has yet far to go before it comes to a genuine reformation. As yet it is little more than a protest against the dogma of infallibility, and the more immediately connected pretensions of the Pope. In general views of doctrine and worship, it still adheres to the Roman Catholic Church.

Once, when preaching at Wapping to a congregation composed principally of sea-faring men and fisherwomen, Rowland Hill greatly astonished his congregation by commencing his sermon with these words: "I come to preach to you great sinners, notorious sinners—yea to *Wapping* sinners!"

The Evangelical Ministerial Association of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and vicinity, will hold their regular monthly meeting in the lecture room of the First Presbyterian Church, Wood street, on Monday, the 2d day of February, at two o'clock P. M. Subject of discussion: How shall the different denominations most impressively exhibit their union in Christ Jesus?" According to appointment, Rev. R. T. Miller will open the discussion.

Skepticism is of two kinds; it is either its own end, and rests tranquilly in the negation of all certitude, or it has a secret aim quite different from its apparent object. In the bosom of philosophy it has the appearance of combatting for unlimited liberty of the human mind, against the tyranny of what it calls philosophical dogmatism, while, in reality, it is conspiring in favor of a foreign tyranny. Who does not remember, for example, having seen in our times a French writer (Ab. de Lamennais) preaching in one volume of the "Essay of Indifference," the most absolute skepticism, in order to conduct us, in his other volumes, to the most absolute dogmatism that ever existed.—*M. Cousin.*

A Reanimated System.

Nervous, debilitated and despoding, the sufferer from indigestion and biliousness deserves the kindly sympathy of every man and woman who even has guessed with a vigorous stomach and a regular flow of healthy bile. While in this forlorn condition let him commence a course of that supreme medicine, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. At the end of four or five weeks ask him how he feels and regard him attentively. You will see a new man, you will hear a new voice. Health and vigor will have returned to his frame, his words will be cheerful in tone, his eye will be clear and its expression untroubled, and he will tell you that he is free from pain, has a good appetite, sleeps soundly, and that his habit of body is natural and regular. We have seen this wonderful change effected in hundreds of instances by a faithful, persevering use of this incomparable medicated stimulant, which is among tonic remedies what Mount Washington is among the surrounding acclivities, it over-tops them all.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, January 30, 1874.

Considerable interest is manifested in regard to the recent decisions of the United States Supreme Court as to the right of a State to tax railroad bonds and other negotiable instruments, and as there is some misconception of the real import of these decisions we desire to draw attention to an exact statement as given in a review of this important question in the January *Atlantic Monthly*:

The court in summing up, held that not only was a mortgage bond, issued by a railroad company, chartered by the State of Pennsylvania and in the hands of a non-resident, property out of the State and as such beyond the jurisdiction of the taxing power of the State, but also that the State could not tax such property even when owned by a citizen and a resident, unless the bond was at the time of assessment *actually within* the territory of the State. The exact language used by the court was as follows:

"We are clear that the tax cannot be sustained; that the bonds, being held by non-residents of the State, are only property in their hands, and that they are thus beyond the jurisdiction of the taxing power of the State. Even where the bonds are held by residents of the State the retention by the company of a portion of the stipulated interest can only be sustained as a mode of collecting a tax upon that species of property in the State. When the property is out of the State there can be no tax upon it by which interest can be retained. The tax laws of Pennsylvania can have no extra territorial operation."

It would seem as if the case as thus stated could not be readily misinterpreted.

—The local money market continues quiescent and money in the hands of the banks abundant, but so great caution is used by the banks that not much paper otherwise than A No. 1 is discounted.

—The following letter from Professor Prell, addressed to the London *Times*, shows that advanced economists of England are by no means among the supporters of the Peel bank act of 1844:

SIR: Your city article of to-day contains the following remarkable sentence:

"That the events which have been witnessed should have actually occurred, is a disgrace to the intelligence of all parties concerned."

And what has been the cause of all this disgrace? One which is implied in the remainder of the sentence—"and this fact becomes, still more apparent when it is considered that but for the services of the electric telegraph in announc ng each parcel of gold about to be shipped hither, the panic would have gone on until the mere prolongation might have spread alarm in other quarters and led to serious disasters." There can be no doubt of the truth of this remark, but is it possible to describe more vividly wilful, self-made calamity and ruin brought on by an artificial cause artificially believed in? The city has trained itself to believe that a particular material called gold, lying in a vault, unused and unsalable, is the physical cause of the rate of discount, profoundly regardless of the fact, which a reference to the reports of the Bank of England would at once have pointed out, that all sorts of rates of discount have accompanied and do accompany all sorts of reserves of gold. Instead of studying the state of trade and speculation in other countries as well as in England, its eyes are fixed on the glittering bank, and when it declines some usual consequences of purely imaginary beliefs en sue; blind terror seizes hold upon the mind, and men perform deeds which are nothing else than simple suicide. Every man terrifies his neighbor; every one sees impossibility to obtain advances hanging over his head, and rushes off forthwith to make himself safe by borrowing from the banks long before he has need of their loans; the banks become shy of lending, and up rises the charge for, that discount which is the foundation of modern trade. And what is the parent of all this agony and disaster? A diminished heap in the bankers' cellar, as if the bank was going to stop payment if for a few days it had a half only of its accustomed mass—a mass, I repeat, which does nothing for commerce, except prevent banking from coming to a standstill. The movements of gold to or from the banks are important, attending to reveal forces which are acting upon trade, just as the foreign exchanges teach us whether England has bought more or less abroad than she has sold. But these movements, as merely making the stock of gold in the bank larger or smaller, are not the power which renders discount cheap or dear. It is rather this effect: It is not from their own intrinsic action, as little corn to eat is sure to cause broad dear, but from the fidditious and absurd importance given to them by scientific ignorance, and the absence of the ability to analyze facts, which is the basis of all knowledge. That the traders of England should, from sheer helplessness of thinking and the consequent surrendering themselves to all sorts of mischievous dogmas, build up by their own act against themselves such rates, of 8, 10 and 12 per cent., as we have lately seen, is a wonder at which I never cease to marvel.

—Of the stock market we have the following report:

There was a smart rally and a brisk inquiry for Michigan Central at 87¼ to 92, the unusual activity and strength of these shares giving the whole market, after the one o'clock Board, a strong tone, though before that hour a drooping tendency had succeeded a steady opening. The weakness was first communicated to the market by the pressure to sell St. Paul stocks, because of reports in regard to what the directors did or determined to do at a meeting held last Saturday. The fact is that at this meeting the subject of dividends was not even mentioned, or at least we were informed by the reliable authority of a director. From what we can learn of the dividend it seems to be a fair one conclusion that a dividend will be declared on the preferred stock, the only question being whether it shall be in cash or bonds, and we do not understand that there has been any doubt that it will be seven per cent.—that it will be in bonds, and these of a new consolidated mortgage, seems now probable.

United States bonds have been strong at the late full prices, in continued demand for investment, proving themselves, as during the panic, the first security in trying times. The average revenue from them is about 5.50 per cent., which, added to the taxes saved, say 2 70 per cent., makes the investment equal to 8.20 per cent. They are held by savings banks, and other moneyed institutions, because of their superior security. Sales of registered 5 bonds were made at 117¾, registered new, 1865's at 116¾, do coupon 1865's, registered 10-40's at 113¾, coupon new 5's $111,600 at 113, and $105,000 currency 6's at 115¾.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Luther S. Kauffman, broker, 96 Fourth avenue.

January 30, 1874.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼
Pacific Mail	39¾	40¼	40⅝	41	41½	41
Adams Express	.....	91	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wells-Fargo Express	.....	71	.....	.....	.....	.....
American Express	.....	49	.....	.....	.....	.....
United States Express	.....	69½	.....	.....	69½	.....
New York Central	93¾	.....	.....	.....	103½	93¾
Erie	48⅞	48¾	48¾	48¾	50	50⅛
Michigan Central	.....	.....	.....	.....	87½	.....
Michigan Southern	.....	81¾	82	81¾	81⅝	81⅝
Illinois Central	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	88	88	88	88	88	88
Chicago & Rock Island	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
Do Preferred	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	211
Fort Wayne	134	134½	134½	134½	134½	134½
Ohio and Mississippi	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾
Union Pacific	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34½	34¾
Chicago and Alton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Harlem	.....	124¼	.....	125	.....	124
C., C. & I. C.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

—The following are the quotations for government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS.	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. 6s 1881	117¾	117¾	117¾
1881, coupons	118½	118¾	118¾
5-20s, 1862	113½	114¾	114¾
5-20s, 1864	115½	116½	116½
5-20s, 1865, old	117½	117¾	117¾
5-20s, 1865, new	116½	116¾	116¾
5-20s, 1867	117¾	117¾	117¾
5-20s 1868	117¾	117¾	117¾
7s-80s	113¾	113¾	113¾
10-40s, coupons	114¾	113¾	113¾
Currency 6s	115¾	115	115¾
New 5s	113¾	113¾	113¾
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee	81	81	81
Tennessee, new	81¾	81	81
South Carolina, July	.....	.....	9
Missouri 6s	.....	93¾	93¾

—Robinson & Co., bankers, Fourth avenue furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R. R.	48⅜
Penna. Scrip	96
Reading	97⅝
United Co.'s N. J.	121⅜
Oil Creek	17
A. V. R. R.	7
Lehigh Valley	60
Central Transportation	42
Empire Transportation	50
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis	71

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } FRIDAY, January 30, 1874. }

REMARKS—The weather is neither cold, warm, bright or cheerful, but a mixture of "all sorts"—snow, rain, sunshine and cloudy. But we have ceased to grumble at the weather, and are content to "take it as it comes."

February will soon put in an appearance, when we look for a change in the programme, and predict a week or two of "cold, raw and disagreeable" weather. Hence it would be advisable to lay in a stock of coal and prepare fill ice houses.

The rivers continue in fine navigable order, and steamers are daily arriving and departing with fair cargoes of freight, which will be sensibly felt by business men who were awaiting the arrival of goods by water, as well as those who desired to ship by that mode of conveyance.

The arrivals of grain continues light, the mills taking all the choice lots of wheat offering. Corn, oats, rye and barley are in fair demand, the supply being fully equal to the wants of trade.

Flour has been ruling steady in price for some days, having an advancing tendency, yet an advance is not anticipated in this market for some time to come, as stocks on hand are larger than they have been at this season for some years. There is, in addition to the home demand, a fair export trade, which serves to keep up the present high rates. This, in connection with an easier money market, gives token of a return to the prosperous days of last summer.

Bacon and provisions move along quietly, with little variation in prices. The stocks, as before stated, are of the choicest kinds, cured expressly for this market. A fair home and order trade is reported.

Some grocery dealers were disposed to complain that the market was rather dull. Just now January settlements are the order of the day, and it may be that some difficulty is found in procuring the "wherewith" to meet the demands made by city dealers upon their country customers. But these things will all come around right in due time, and trade assume its wonted activity.

The favorable state of the weather has had the effect of increasing the arrivals of apples, potatoes and all other articles affected by frost, and the market is fully supplied.

The state of the country roads continue to interfere with the occupation of "peddlers," and the result is that "up and down town retail grocers," who depend on this source of supply for eggs, etc., etc., are unable to meet the wants of their customers. Query: Why all the good butter command a higher price in Pittsburgh than in the Eastern cities? We pause for a reply.

We may add that the market is about all that could be desired at this season of the year, and everything taken into consideration, meets the expectations of dealers generally.

Below will be found the receipts of leading articles of produce for the past twenty-four hours:

Flour, bbls	1,203	Wheat, sks	789
Corn, sks	850	Hay, sks	171
Barley, sks	2,284	Butter, pkgs	15
Oats, sks	3,000	Bacon, hhds	10
Apples, bbls	113		

Below will be found the wholesale rates of the market, unless special mention is made to the contrary:

APPLES—The supply is slightly on the increase, with sales reported at $2.50@3 25 ₱ bbl, as to quality and condition.

APPLE BUTTER—We are reported a moderate dealer at 6c@6½c ₱ gallon.

ASHES—Market reported dull at the following figures: Soda ash, common, 3½@4c; refined 5c; pearl, 8c; pearl, No. 1, 6½c; black salts 2c.

BEANS—The demand for choice brands Pittsburg

Foundry, No 1 B, in 100 ton lots ..... 31 00@
Gray Forge Neutral, in 100 ton lots ..... 29 00@
Mottled Neutral, in 100 ton lots ..... 27 00@
White Neutral, in 100 ton lots ..... 26 00@
Gray Forge Red Short (of Cornwall ores), in 100 ton lots at furnace ..... 27 00@
Mottled Red Short (of Cornwall ores), in 100 ton lots at furnace ..... 26 00@
White Red Short (of Cornwall ores), in 100 ton lots at furnace ..... 25 00@

—Bulletin of the Am. Iron and Steel Association, Jan. 21.

Iron, Nail and Hardware Markets.

CLEVELAND, January 27.—The hardware trade during the past week has been quiet and prices unchanged. Tin plate remains at $13, with 25@50c off for cash.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 111¾.

NEW YORK, January 30, 1874.

easy, loaning most of day at 5@6 per cent., on call falling to 3@4 per cent.; in afternoon the supply exceeding the demand.

STERLING

closed dull, at $4 83¾ for prime bankers' bills, and $4 87 for demand.

GOLD

ranged from 111¾@111⅞, closing at the higher rate. Carrying rates were 5@6 per cent. Clearings $26,000,000. Customs receipts $628,000. Treasury disbursements $877,000. Imports of dry goods for the week, $9,727,250.

GOVERNMENTS

steady.

U. S. coupons, 1881	118¼	5-20's, '67	117¾
5-20's, '62	115	5-20's, '68	117¾
5-20's, '64	115¾	New 5's	113¾
5-20's, '65	117¾	10-40's	113¾
5-20's, '65, new	116¾	Currency 6's	114¾

STATE BONDS

dull.

Missouri	92¾	Virginia, old	30
Tennessee, old	81	North Carolina, new	33
Tennessee, new	81	North Carolina, new	18
Virginia, new	61		

STOCKS.

The stock market, with the exception of a brief spell of weakness at the opening, and again for a short time after the second board, was strong throughout the day; the advance ranged ½@1¾ per cent., and the largest transactions were in Pacific Mail, Union Pacific, Western Union and Lake Shore. Total sales between ten and two o'clock aggregated 141,000 shares. Erie and Pacific Mail rose materially. A heavy "bear" attack on Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central depressed that stock from 50¾ to 29¾, but the final result was a rise to 31 at the close. There is large short interest in it and a pool are trying to corner it. Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph stock was put on Board for the first time to-day, and advanced from 13 to 16¾.

Canton	75	Del. Lack. & W.	96¾
Pac. Tel. Co.	16	Toledo & Wabash	29
Adams Express Co.	94	Do preferred	70
Merchants'	29	Ft. Wayne	134½
Wells, Fargo & Co.	71¾	Terre Haute	11
American Express	62	Do preferred	33
United States	69¾	Chicago & Alton	96
Pacific Mail	41	Do preferred	111
C. Central	103	Ohio & Mississippi	34¾
Erie	50	Cleve., Col. & Cin.	88
Do preferred	71	Burlington & Quincy	103
Harlem	125	Lake Shore	81¾
Do preferred	119	Panama	94
Michigan Central	92	Illinois Central	101¾
Pittsburgh	86	Central Pacific	95
Northwest	29¾	Central Pacific bonds	95
Do preferred	71¾	Quicksilver	30
Rock Island	100¾	Hartford & Erie	4¾
New Jersey Central	102¾	Del. & Lack	96¾
St. Paul	46¾	Bankers' bills	4 84

"Below high water mark.

DANIEL O'LEARY,
Observer, Signal Service, U. S. A.

Greensboro.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

GREENSBORO, Pa., January 30, 1874.

River falling, with seven feet of water in the channel. Weather cloudy at 5 P. M.

Brownsville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, Pa., January 30, 1874.

River stationary, with about nine and a half feet of water in the channel. Weather cloudy. Thermometer 40 degrees at 5 P. M.

Wheeling.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEELING, W. Va., January 30, 1874.

River thirty feet eight inches and rising. Departed—J. E. Rankin, for Pittsburgh, 8 A. M. Express, for Parkersburg, 11 A. M. Arrived—R. R. Hudson 5 P. M. Clear and cool.

Cairo.

CAIRO, January 30.—Arrived—Julia, St. Louis; Futures City, with Anna in tow, New Orleans; Arkansas Belle, Evansville. Departed—Julia, Hickoburg. River risen eleven inches. Clear and colder since 6 P. M.

For Latest River Dispatches see Fourth Page.

RIVER NEWS.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Arrived.

Geneva	Phillips	Geneva.	
Elector	Abrams	Geneva.	
Diana	Houghton	Erie.	
West Virginia	Donaldson	Geneva.	
Jas. E. Rankin	Cutler	Matamoras.	

Departed.

E. Bennett	Carmack	Geneva.
Elector	Abrams	Geneva.
Elizabeth	Houghton	Erie.
Granite State	Kerr	Portsmouth.

MONONGAHELA—Nine feet nine inches, and falling.

Boats Departing this Day.

Matamoras ..... J. E. Rankin ..... Cutler, 2 P. M.

THE marks last evening indicated nine feet nine inches, and falling slowly. The weather during the day was pleasant.

BUSINESS on the landing was dull. Provisions were scarce.

THE Kate Kinney has laid up at St. Louis until further notice.

THE steamer Granite State left for Portsmouth with a moderate trip.

THE Nellie Speer, with three boats and five barges, passed Cincinnati Friday.

CAPT. J. D. SWEARINGEN, of the steamer Paragon, is at home on a visit to his family.

MURRAY HICKS, a brother of Frank H., takes charge of the engines of the Belle Lee.

THE Bonz, with ten empty coal barges in tow, left Cincinnati Friday for the Ohio river.

THE Belle Lee enters the New Orleans and Memphis trade for the balance of the season.

THE towboat Tom Dodsworth arrived from Cincinnati with 750 bushels of potatoes for sale.

THE towboat Alex. Chambers arrived at Cincinnati on Wednesday, with a tow of Kanawha coal.

THE towboat Fearless and barges are receiving for St. Louis and Memphis, to line Saturday P. M.

THE John Howard went out of Arkansas Sunday with 1,700 bales cotton and 1,800 sacks cotton seed.

THE R. D. Dugan arrived at Memphis Monday from the Yazoo river with 800 bales cotton, having put off 220 at the mouth.

CAPT. D. C. KINNEY, master of the steamer David White, which blew up in 1868, was married on Wednesday, to Miss Lowe.

THE steamer Juniata, Captain C. L. Brennan, left Cincinnati for this port on Wednesday. Pilots, Geo. Crawford, February 14th and March 15th.

THE John Kilgour passed Memphis Monday evening five days out from New Orleans. She has 400 tons and 2,000 bales of cotton on board.

THE elevators at St. Louis are in a state of insurrection, and have reduced the rate of transferring grain across the river on the ferryboat to four cents per bushel.

THE B. D. Wood arrived in Louisville, Thursday, with six boats and one fuel boat, and took them over the falls in all right; started back to empty tow at Middleport.

THE St. Louis "Democrat" says: Tonnage for New Orleans is in demand, and down to thirty-five for flour, and seventeen and a half cents for lard and bacon per 100 lbs.

THE punctual packet James E. Rankin, Captain Telford, takes her departure this day at 2 P. M. for Wheeling and Matamoras. Passengers and shippers will bear this in mind.

WATT SHERON, late clerk of the St. James, has accepted the position of bookkeeper with Clark, Knight & Clark, of Ironton, and George Stevens has been promoted to Mr. Sheron's place.

THE St. Louis "Globe" says: Commodore James S. Wise, of Cincinnati, of anywhere else on the broad continent, is a man of mark. Mr. W. is on a short visit to his brother, of this city.

ST. LOUIS.—"Somebody at one of Mr. Hammond's meetings a month ago up to the Union Church, used the name of Billy Wiggins for prayer, and accordingly a half hour of devotion was lost on that clever fellow."

THE Madison "Courier" says: Lawrence says he won the pigs' feet match at Cincinnati, and now wants to match Dave Mockbire, the champion pigs' feet eater, against any living man west of the Alleghenies.

MR. EUGENE RUDD, late clerk of the steamer Quickstep, Captain Jackson, died at his home after he had gone for his health. He had a life policy in the North American Insurance Company, of New York, for $5,000.

THE schooners Ora and Skylark, from the lakes via St. Louis and river to New Orleans, have arrived at the latter place with 1,000 barrels of potatoes each. They were loading last Saturday, with cotton, &c., for New York and Boston.

MISS GERDING, the mother of Capt. John Triplett's wife, died at St. Joseph Infirmary, in Louisville, on Wednesday, after a lingering illness. Her funeral will take place from the residence of Capt. Triplett and wife have been in the city several day.

GOVERNOR DEVEREUX has sent a special message to the Ohio Legislature, urging the necessity to Congress on the subject of continuing the improvements of the Illinois river in order to secure ship navigation between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river.

THE steamer Juniata is coming up with a big trip, including 400 barrels molasses, 50 hhds sugar, 300 sacks of bean, 400 boxes soap, 500 sacks flour, 500 bales cotton, 1,000 bales hay and straw, 300 bushels corn for Fairman & Henderson, and 300 additional sacks flour.

THE Memphis "Avalanche," of Tuesday, says: A barge loaded with hay, straw, corn, potatoes, onions, meal, live stock and other produce, came to the landing on Sunday last, consigned to A. R. Morton, having been brought down in tow of the John W. Cannon from Florence, Indiana, seven miles above Louisville.

SPEAKING about towboats we want you to count the John A. No. 2 among the best and swiftest of nine ribbon trips, just bear her in mind. Just read the following: Twenty-seven loaded boats and barges left Cincinnati on the 20th inst., bound to seven boats and barges, arrived at New Orleans on the 27th inst., in seven days. This is the John A.'s third trip of this kind since November 1st, 1873.

CAPTAIN JOHN MEEKER, the celebrated lumberman of Big Sandy, was at Cincinnati, to engage a towboat to go up to Mossington with a timber raft for the landing. In coming down the river he got by Moscow before he knew it, and landed in about two miles below town. Captain Meeker says he knows where Moscow is, and denies being on board at the time, but Joe McCullough says he knows a thing or two.

CINCINNATI January 30—The following boats have arrived—Bengal Tiger, John Dippold, Tiger, Simpson Hoffett, Stillwater, Ben Lewis, Avenue, and Nellie Speer from Pittsburgh, and Arlington from Memphis.

Departed—Diamond, N. J. Bigley, Lake Erie No. 3 for Pittsburgh.

W. W. Bruce has bought the steamer Argosy.

THERE is now a sufficient depth of water between St. Louis and Cairo for all practicable purposes, and the river is almost entirely free from ice. Tonnage is in excess of the facilities for conveyance of it, and rates on freight have dropped to a point that there is no profit in it. Many boats are tied up because of them. Flour is now carried from St. Louis to New Orleans at 40 cents per barrel, and pound freights at 50 cents per hundred.

CAPT. ED. F. DIX, of St. Louis, mysteriously disappeared from that city on last Thursday, and no clue as yet has been found to his disappearance. He is generally believed by his friends that he was the party who jumped overboard from the ferryboat last Thursday night. Every effort is being made by his friends, assisted by the police, to recover his remains or learn his whereabouts. Liberal rewards have been offered.

THE New Orleans "Price Current" prints a river column now; began it on Friday last. It says: We purpose making a specialty of advertising all the many friends whose capital is invested and whose hopes rest on the Mississippi and its tributaries. Items of news as to the condition of our rivers, movements of steamers, &c., &c., will be published here by the Price Current, in this way the owners bringing faith that business will improve vastly on the rivers.

"OLD INCONSPIRE," officially known as the frigate Constitution, was placed in docks at the Philadelphia navy yard on the 15th inst, with a view to being refitted on her original model, as a memorial of the early glories of the American navy. This famous vessel was designed and modeled in 1798. The appropriation for her reconstruction not being sufficient to complete the work, some Boston ladies determined to raise the money needed for the purpose. This they accomplished, and the frigate was refitted and equipped by Mr. Hartt. Her first cruise took place in 1800. Mr. Hartt is a naval constructor, is now to rebuild the historic old ship.

The following towboats left since our last issue:

FOR CINCINNATI.

Steamers.	Coalboats.	Barges.	Bushels.
Coal City	1	1	162,000
John Penney	10	10	120,000
—	—	—	—
Total	24	24	282,000

FOR LOUISVILLE.

Reindeer	4	4	95,000
Tom Rees, No. 2	20	18	162,000
—	—	—	—
Total	22	22	257,000

THE Shreveport "Times" of the 26th says: "The governor's private secretary reports a list of seven inches for the forty-eight hours ending at 3 P. M. yesterday, three inches Sunday and four Monday. The rise is now six fifteen feet and nine inches above the low water of 1872. The pilot of the Clifford reports about two and a half feet steamboat water in Old river to Gilmer and failing. The lake is falling and the water getting so thin that the Belle Haskell can't get out with one hundred bales cotton. The captain of the Andrew Ackley brings the latest news from the upper country. She left Lamar Tuesday evening, and found thirty inches on Crenshaw bar—the shoalest place in the river—and that rising very slowly all the way down. There is no water above Little river more than is absolutely necessary for stock watering purposes. Capt. Ball informs us that a good deal of cotton has been shipped by rail via Delhi for New Orleans—rated at $10 per bale. The Ackley, however, got under this fifty cents worth, bringing hers out at $5. Although the difference in insurance gives a railroad a slight advantage at these figures, there is a manifest disposition on the part of shippers to give the boats the preference. The captain could form no idea of the amount of cotton yet to be shipped, but remarked that the planters have only now got fairly to going. The crop is short of that of last year, though the shape is claimed to be better. The officers of the South Western report nine feet on the bar below, and the river falling fast all the way out."

IMPORTS BY RIVER AND RAIL.

Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railroad

Curry & M, 93 doz hominy; McKee Bros, 2 tcs and 1 cask g ware; H F Greer, 14 bdls comp; Richards & H, 5 bdls g ware; J F Hagen, 18 bales hay; Frazer & M, 54 bdls paper; H Cordier, 1 car heading; C A Carpenter, 250 bars iron; McKnight, H & S, 1 car hay iron; W P Townsend & Co, lot nuts, wire, etc; Harris & Ewing, 2 sxs sundries; Graff, B & Co, 1 car limestone; S P Skinner, 149 emt casks; Read, C & Co, 6 sxs butter; W F McLaughlin, 5 rolls leather; W P Phelan, 6 bxs tobacco; Tapp Bebney, 2 sxs dies; Logan & C, 4 bxs dies; F H Stewart, 1 pkge brushes; Jas S Ramsey & Co, 50 bbls oil; C G Hussey, lot old copper and brass; Voigt, M & Co, 11 sks oats, 10 bbls apples; Mc-Cracken & Bro, 10 bbls apples; Geo A Kelley, 1 tce potash; Coleman & Alt, 1 car stone; Jas Calderwood & Co, 148 p h hides; I L Reed & Son, 1 pkge merchandise; Scott & Gaul, 517 sks oats; Lyn & Conley, 17 bbls apples, 1 pkge butter; M. McWhinney, 63 bbls spokes; Wells & Co, 1 car w lime; Dunlevy, Bros, 6 cases tobacco; Henry Rea, lot of meat and 50 bbls pork; 10 tubs butter; S. S. Pickney, 30 cases tobacco; Reiter, L & Co, lot springs and axles; Dilworth Bros, 5 bbls apples; H W Harris, 4 sets w wheels; A Schaub, 7 cases tobacco; Shipton & W, 50 bbls h wines; F W Jenkinson, 100 bbls flour; Reese, Graff, J & W lot iron and steel; B Pdaum, 42 sks rags; Whitmore & Co, 2 bdls forks; Fahnestock & M, 2 bdls do, H Agnew & Co, 5 bales p bandles; D W Walace, 100 bbls flour; T C Jenkins, 400 sks flour, 5 bbls do; Reese Bros & Co, 75 tons s r h mas; Schemaker & Co, 400 sks flour, 200 bbls do; Laing & McC, 44 bales straw; M Meek, 65 bales hay; W m Holmes, 5 empty cars.

PER ELEVATOR.—M Weil & Co, 5 cars barley; Marshall, A & Co, 2 cars wheat; H J Heinz & Co, car corn; Jos Rhodes, 7 cars barley; M F Herron, 1 car corn; M J Meek, 6 cars rye; L G Graff & Co, 1 car oats; Thomas & Co, 1 car barley; McHenry & Flood, 1 car oats.

ALLEGHENY STATION.—Geo Stewart, 100 bbls lime; Reed Bros, 1,000 bbls lime; Jas Parks, 6 tons hay.

J Steadford & Co, 22 bgs corn; J S Clark & Co, 2 bxs mdse; Arms rong, P & McK, 25 sks rags; J H Nevin & Co, 15 sks rgs; Keifer, Smith & Co, 69 bbls hides; I L Beck, 18 bbls apples, 3 do cider, 3 pkgs butter, 2 bbls eggs; Fred Gelbert, 5 pkgs butter, 2 bbls poultry; Henry Lenz, 6 barrels eggs; 5 barrels apples; B Carson, 1 bbl poultry, 1 do eggs, 2 bxs butter; C P Comley, 6 bbls flour; S Noon, 10 boxes common soap; W F Hackman, 20 sks flour; Fred Schoepfer, 5 bbls apples, 1 bx poultry, 1 bbl eggs, 2 pkgs butter; McQuewan & Chambers, 1 car lumber; J M Hemphill, 5 cars staves; Jno H Lotz, 2 do; E Stroh, 1 do; Smith, M & Co, 7 cars lime; Smith, Robinson & Wilson, 1 do; Jno Nanz, 1 car lumber; R Knox & Son, 113 sks ship stuff; H Voigt, 1 car coke; Thompson & Finley, 20 bales hay; Hack & Schwebel, 20 bgs c seed.

Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad.

Heath A S, 1 car lumber; Shaw J & Co, 1 car do; Central Refining Co, 5 cars oil bbls; J B Canfield, 1 car lime; Aiken, W & P, 1 car onions; Boyd & Mackenzie, 1 car w lime; Hastings & Co, 200 bbls shoulders; H Riddle & Son, 91 gals s butter; T C Jenkins, 100 bbls molasses; S Hastings & Co, 50 do; J S Dilworth, 13 do; Dawier & Son, 12 carbstones; Loh & C, 7 bbls eggs; E D Moore, 100 ot bbls; Lunze & Bro, 100 bxs candles; Allen, R & C, 40 bxs candles, 10 ½ bxs candles; B H Voskamp, 1 bx mdse; Mackintosh & Hemphill, 1 pkge do; Head, C & Co, 31 pkgs sundries; J Henderson, 5 bxs a b comp; D C Kneeland, 80 bbls s boards; Bricker & Co, 34 sks cabbages; H Rea, Jr, 1 bbl apples, 3 bxs butter; G N Hoffstot, 4 rolls leather; J J Pentt, 42 bbls apples; J Hupper, 1 pkg do; P Hannah & Co, 25 kgs lard; Head, Carson & Co, 10 bbls apples; McHenry & H, 25 bags c seed; Edmond & Co, 2 kgs s butter; Hogg, M & Co, 10 bbls apples; B Mellon & Co, 10 bags oats, 2 do rye; J C Duffey, 2 bokes tin plating; F Dell & Son, 5 bbls apples; 1 Porterfield, 15 bgs onions; L J Blanchfield, 20 do do.

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railway.

Fleming Bros, 10 bxs iron cards; H Rea, Jr, 1 car pressed hay; Jeans, Tay, Jr & Co, 1 car Indiana coals; J G Hoffman, 1 car hay; W McCreery, 1 do; S Kunarding-er, 5 bbls whisky; J W Taylor, 2 bx tobacco; D Wallace, 100 bbls flour; W B Hays & Son, 20 kegs pigs lead, 100 bbls flour; W B Hays & Son, 29 kegs pigs lead, 75 bbls do; Hussey, Diamond & Co, 1 car stone; P Durand, 5 bbls whisky; J W Taylor, 2 bx tobacco; D Wallace, 100 bbls flour; W B Hays & Son, 20 kegs pigs lead, 75 bbls do; Hussey, Diamond & Co, 1 car stone; P Durand, 5 bbls whisky; Herb Kleny, 10 bbls whisky; Carter Bros, 16 cads tob, 15 pkgs do; F G Craighead, 15 sks feathers; W H Graf, 5 tons butter; Irish-man, 1 car hay; W McCreery, 1 do; S Kunarding-er, 5 bbls whisky; J W Taylor, 2 bx tobacco; D Wallace, 100 bbls flour; W B Hays & Son, 20 kegs pigs lead, 75 bbls do; Hussey, Diamond & Co, 1 car stone; P Durand, 5 bbls whisky; Herb Kleny, 10 bbls whisky; Carter Bros, 16 cads tob, 15 pkgs do; F G Craighead, 15 sks feathers; W H Graf, 5 tons butter; Irishman

COMMISSION TROUBLE.

MORE ROSS-KENNEDY CASES.

The Defendants Held for Trial on Two Charges.

The Alleged Stolen Books.

On the Alleged Conspiracy to Defraud the Defendants Waive a Hearing—Testimony on the Alleged Larceny of Books.

Shortly after two o'clock yesterday afternoon, Messrs. John Ross and Wm. H. Kennedy appeared before Acting Mayor Butler on the charge of the larceny of two books, the property of the city of Pittsburgh, and the charge of conspiring to defraud. Messrs. Swartzweider and Taylor appeared for the prosecutor, Councilman William C. McCarthy and Mr. Sisg le for the defendants.

In the conspiracy case the parties waived a hearing, and the larceny case was taken up.

A COMMISSIONER EXAMINED.

Mr. P. H. Laufman was called on behalf of the prosecution, and testified that he was "unfortunately a member of the late Water Commission, Mr. Kennedy being Engineer of the Water Works. Bond Record 1873" and ledger shown). Never saw this ledger before that I know of; it contains accounts with Townsend, Wheeler & Co.; statements of bonds sold, interest, &c.; the bond record (book produced) contains account of bonds negotiated with Geo. B. Hill & Co. and others.

Cross-examined—Never saw either of those books among the books of the Water Commission. Have compared these books with the other official books since these charges were made. This book (Bond Record) is nothing but a memorandum, in my opinion. It agrees with the other books in the main, but some of the figures do not tally. It is not an account with anybody. The accounts commence April 27, 1873.

By Mr. Siagle—Was not a memorandum similar to this kept on loose paper prior to this time?

Mr. Swartzweider objected. Objection overruled.

Mr. Laufman—I don't know; there are accounts in the ledger that correspond with some of these *ledger* accounts in this book (Ledger shown). (Water Commission annual report shown.) The entries appear to correspond; don't know whether one was made from the other; Mr. Ross made up the report for 1873.

THE CONTENTS OF THE BOOKS.

J. P. Duff, Secretary of the Water Committee, was sworn and testified: I succeeded Messrs. Ross and Little as Secretary of the Water Commission; (books shown); these books are Water Committee accounts with different parties, and balances struck January 1, 1873. The Bond Record contains an account of the bonds sold, to whom, &c. I should think all the office Bond Record; there is none other; I have the bill of W. G. Johnston & C., for these books, (bill pronounced).

Mr. Siagle objected, that this witness was not competent to testify as to the purchase of the books. Objection sustained.

Cross-examined—The bond record agrees with the accounts in Ledger and journal, mainly, but accounts in the other book are in the regular books; there is no similar record for the time prior to 1873; don't know how it was done up to that time; I have compared the record of bonds with it; it agrees as to amounts; the bonds were sold by Townsend, Wheeler & Co., George B. Hill & Co., and Ira B. Hyde & Co.; only know from itself that it represents a water account; don't know from itself that it represents the water loan; the bonds were sold for the benefit of the Water Commissioners.

To Mr. Swartzweider—Don't think this book contains a record of bonds issued to the Construction Trust Company.

Mr. Siagle desired to send for the "regular" books, but Mr. Swartzweider objected and was sustained.

To Mr. Siagle—The balances in this Ledger corresponded with the entries in the journal; the items appear to be selected from the accounts.

THE ARREST.

Officer Joseph Cuppins was next called and examined. He testified, as on the previous hearing, to the arrest of Mr. Kennedy, without a warrant, on Smithfield street, on Tuesday; Kennedy twice stopped the officer and demanded a warrant; Mr. Kennedy stated to the officer that he was taking the books at the request of Mr. Ross to Frank Ardary's stable.

On cross-examination witness stated that the information was at the time made out but not sworn to. The arrest was on the first information and with reference to another book, that in the case before Alderman Shore.

Mr. George P. Ba nsine, a clerk for W. G. Johnston & Co., testified that Mr. Ross had purchased there and charged to the Water Commission. He had not sold them, but he purchased all the goods and recognized the bill presented. The commercial value of the books is three dollars each.

SECRETARY PURP ha sworn.

Was in the room on the evening the books were taken; Ross and Kennedy were there twenty to thirty minutes; I went down to the safe and came back; saw Kennedy go out with a bundle under his arm the size of these books; knew that Kennedy was entitled to hand over all books by the Committee; the committee passed a resolution not to allow Mr. Ross in that room; also that Mr. Kennedy should hand over all books of the commission; Mr. Kennedy delivered some bills and keys; Mr. Ross remained in the office about an hour after Mr. Kennedy left; I told Mr. Ross my instructions, not to allow him there, and then he left.

Cross-examined—Was introduced by Kennedy to Ross. Mr. Kennedy said Mr. Ross wished to get some private books and papers; they then went from my room to that of Mr. Kennedy; in the presence of anything being said about Ellsworth avenue nor Negley; suggested that Mr. Ross had better see the general or sub-committee having charge; think Kennedy told Ross to get all his private matters; don't remember that Kennedy said "I'll take this"; referred to the stable for you;" I saw the bundle in Kennedy's hands.

To the Magistrate—I should suppose the bo ks to be of value

To Mr. Swartzweider—Don't know what value they might be to Ross.

The prosecution here closed.

TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE.

D. W. C. Carroll, late President of the Water Commission, testified that he had seen the books—one of them Property Account and the other Bond Record—all bonds sold; the book commences April, 1873; bonds were sold before that; memorandums were made on paper, from which the entries in the regular books were made; these books are a continuation of those memorandums; these books are the same record in the Controller's office. (Ledger examined.) These are accounts of the engineers; can't say whether they are accounts or memorandums of accounts; don't recollect of seeing the book before; I would suppose from my knowledge of the business of the Water Commission, that these books are not necessary.

Cross-examined—Didn't look in my books for an account of the bonds placed in the Nation Trust Company or of any of those parties collateral; think there is an account with George B. Hill & Co. there; know that it was kept in a kind of blotter which Mr. Ross had; would not be positive it is in the regular ledger also.

SIMPLY MEMORANDUM BOOKS.

Robert Wilson was sworn and examined the books. Have seen them; attended most of the meetings; saw the books in the water commission room frequently; the regular records of the commission are large Journals and Ledger; we considered these simply memorandum books; they may be part of the records of the office but I consider the main books the record; these are pretty memorandum books; the use for the benefit of the are in keeping his books.

Cross-examined—These Secretary the first entries there; these are the first entries; don't know them to be first entries before entering on main books.

To Mr. Siagle—I would take them to be the first memorandums before placed in books of Commission.

THE CONTROLLER TESTIFIES.

R. M. Snodgrass, Controller, sworn: I have seen these books before.

Mr. Siagle asked if the same records were in the Controller's office, and Mr Snodgrass suggested that by an examination of his books he could tell exactly.

Mr. Swartzweider objected that that was unnecessary; that the question had no relevancy.

Mr. Siagle said it was much to the defendants to show that they were not taking any valuable property.

The Acting Mayor said that the question at issue was one of larceny and ruled out the inquiry.

Witness was asked whether in his opinion the books were necessary to have been kept.

Objected to, and objection sustained. Mr. Swartzweider claimed that there were three questions to be considered: Were these books the property of the city of Pittsburgh? Were they feloniously taken away?

Mr. Siagle next asked the value of the books, to which Mr. Snodgrass answered, after examining, that he could not see that they were of any use to the city: the same records, so far as he could see, were in the Controller's office.

To Mr. Swartzweider—Have knowledge of the payments made through the Water Commission; don't see the necessity of these books.

To Mr. Taylor—Of all the departments of the city government, there are exact corresponding records of bonds issued and moneys paid out in warrants.

The defense here rested, and the magistrate was briefly address d by counsel.

The defendants were held for trial.

RELIGIOUS AMENDMENT.

Meeting in Allegheny—Delegates to the National Convention.

A meeting in the interest of the religious amendment of the National Constitution was held last evening in the North Presbyterian Church, Allegheny.

Dr. H. A. Hodge, the pastor, presided and addressed the meeting. He said there is nothing to hinder any Christian to join in this movement. There is a great difference between the establishment of a church and the adoption of the Christian religion. There is no compulsory authority in connection with it, as has said, "He that is not with me is against me." The family aggregated in one relation constitutes the church, and in another constitutes the State. Christ is the author of both institutions in this connection with the Christian religion; that many of the framers of the Constitution, although members of anything being said about Ellsworth avenue nor Negley; suggested that Mr. Ross had better see the general or sub-committee having charge; think Kennedy told Ross to get all his private matters; don't remember that Kennedy said "I'll take this"; referred to the stable for you;" I saw the bundle in Kennedy's hands.

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THE CITY COUNCILS LEGAL.

Opinion of Attorney General Dimmick.

The New Constitution Does Not Affect our December Elections.

Major Negley, President of the Common Council, has rendered a good service, at this crisis, in obtaining from the Attorney General an official opinion on the question of the legality of the present City Councils. Following is the correspondence in full:

Hon. Samuel E. Dimmick, Attorney General:

DEAR GENERAL—Doubts have arisen as to the *status* of our city Councils, and in view of the approaching election I deem it my duty as the presiding officer of the Common Council to state the position of affairs and ask you to give us (if you will) your official opinion.

By our law the Common Council is elected annually, on the first Tuesday in December, and it is provided that the Councilmen elected shall, on the first Monday after the first day of January in each year, assemble at their Council rooms and shall organize their respective Councils.

In pursuance of the above law the election was held, December 2nd, 1873, the first Tuesday of December, and the Councilmen then elected on the 5th of January, 1874 (being the 1st Monday after the 1st day of January), assembled at the Council rooms and organized.

It is now alleged that under an opinion given by you a few days ago, in construing a part of the Constitution that the Council of 1873 should not have given up to the persons now claiming to be in office as Councilmen

The Constitution adopted December 16, 1874, abrogated the election held two weeks previous. That the Councils of 1873 have, as yet, no successors and therefore that Councils shall continue to act as are elected on the third Tuesday of February next.

To this we say, then our Council is no Council, and all our official acts are illegal, and in this time that we should have these doubts cleared away—which you, as the law officer of the State can do.

Respectfully, W. B. NEGLEY,
President of Common Council.
PITTSBURGH, January 29th, 1874.

Following is the reply of Judge Dimmick;

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL,
HARRISBURG, January 29, 1874.

Hon. W. B. Negley, President of Common Council, Pittsburgh:

DEAR SIR:—In reply to yours of the 27th inst., it is but proper that I should say I am credited with opinions, my first knowledge of which is derived from newspapers. I have given no opinion upon the point you submit.

I think the Council of 1873 was right in yielding to the Council elected in December, 1873, and that the latter Council is the legal Council of the city of Pittsburgh, and its members entitled to hold their offices until the first Monday after the first day of January, 1875.

That members of the present Council are the lawful successors of the Council of 1873, within the provisions of section 9th of the schedule.

That the words of the section "and at the first election under it" are to be interpreted as if they read "and the persons to office at the first election," &c., and entitle the officer at the date of such election, to continue in office, as is thereby provided, or, the conjunction or might properly be substituted for and, and two questions arise—the period of time—the date of the adoption and of the first election under it are provided by the section, and persons in office at the date they are continued thereby in their respective offices until the term for which they have been elected or appointed shall expire, and their successors are duly qualified.

The present members of the Council in office on the third Tuesday of February next, are within the above provision of the section cited, and are not affected by the question whether the Constitution took effect on the 1st January or at the date of the Governor's proclamation.

With great respect, your obedient servant,
SAMUEL E. DIMMICK,
Attorney General.

THE RELIGIOUS AMENDMENT.

The Call for the National Convention to Meet in this City Next Wednesday.

Below we give the text of the call for the Religious Amendment Convention. Our space does not permit the publication of the list of names appended to the call. It is as long as seldom met with in any similar document. About 150 of the most prominent citizens of the country, North and South, East and West, united in the call. Governors and ex-Governors of states, Judges of the courts of the United States and of several States, members of Congress, educationists, presidents and professors in colleges and theological seminaries, clergymen and lawyers, and other classes are found in large numbers.

In our advertising columns will be found the names of gentlemen who are to address the convention.

CALL FOR A NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The people of the United States are according to the fact that the national Constitution contains of any explicit acknowledgment of God or the Christian religion. Although it is the fundamental law of a great Christian people, its test of the most Christian character has led even such men as Dr. Woolsey, ex-President of Yale College, to state that it would require no change to make it the Mohammedan nation.

This inconsistency, long a matter of regret to many Christians, is now a cause of alarm. It is being used, persistently and in many instances successfully, against the Christian interest; and they cannot disregard him and His commandments.

Dr. Woolsey, President of Yale College, lately declared that the Constitution of the United States would require no change to adapt it to a Mohammedan nation. Mohammedanism, Buddhism, the worst form of Fetichism, is better than infidelity.

Rev. Dr. McAllister, the General Secretary of the National Association, was next announced as being present, and was called on to address the meeting. He said the editor of the *Independent* is going to jump out of the window rather than submit to religion taught in the public schools. We do not see in this statement, and therefore the editor of the *Independent* will not jump out of the window because religion is taught in some of the definitions of all our dictionaries. But the schools cannot exist without using the dictionaries, and so teaching the religion which they contain. And, therefore, since the dictionaries cannot be changed, the public schools must be demolished to prevent the editor of the *Independent* from breaking his neck by jumping out of the window. Mr. McAllister said religion is more necessary than a dictionary, as many nations have existed without books, but never without a religion. Perhaps he thinks the public schools more necessary than the neck of the editor of the *Independent*.

Dr. Sloane addressed the meeting on the subject of the power and influence of government. He said any power which recognized no higher power—no God to rule by His will—had no reason if the nation would obey God, why it should not exist as long as the world lasts.

Rev. Dr. Milligan spoke on the religion of the government. He said that fasts, thanksgivings and religion in the schools, are its worship. Christ is the governor among the nations, and he cannot govern them but by governing their governments. We want some security that no law will be made contrary to God's law.

Mr. D. Cheesman reported the following list of delegates to attend the National Convention which is to meet on Wednesday, the 4th of February, in Lincoln Hall, Washington:

J. F. W. Sloane, D. D., J. A. McKee, Esq., A. M. Brown, Esq., Rev. Wm. Orr Cooper, D. D., Luther Kaufman, Esq., William Wills, Esq., Rev. Thomas Crumpton, D. D., Joseph McNaugh, Esq., Rev. W. D. Howard, D. D., Nelson, Esq., Thomas Mason, M. D., Rev. John W. Sproull, Benjamin Hacket, Esq., Rev. J. W. Bain, Thomas Bain, Esq., Daniel Wilson, Esq., Rev. D. C. Page, D. D., Joseph Dilworth, Esq., Rev. C. C. Swift, D. D., Rev. W. Coleman, Alexander Ewing, Esq., Rev. D. R. Wilson, D. McFerran, Esq., Rev. A. D. Clark, D. D., Thomas H. Baker, Esq., Isaac Cooper, D. D., Luther Kaufman, D.D., Samuel Rea, Esq., Rev. J. M. Johnston, James B. McKee, Esq., Rev. W. Preston, D.D., Thomas Bakewell, Esq., Hon Felix R. Brunot, Rev. R. H. Knox, Prof. S. A. Neale, Rev. Dr. Pershing, Rev. A. A. Hodge, D.D., A. M. Marshall, Esq., Rev. Joseph King, William Floyd, Esq.

Arrested for Larceny.

Michael Bradford, a well and not favorably known resident of the Bull Run district, was arrested yesterday by officer Michael Harrison, on a charge of larceny, preferred by Mr. P. McCartan, merchant tailor, of Wylie avenue. On the evening of December 17, 1873, a coat valued at five-and-twenty dollars, a pair of pants worth seven dollars, were "lifted" from the door of Mr. McCartan's store. As the coat on Michael's back was identified as the stolen property, the suspicion is such as to require very sulict explanation. The accused is in the lock-up awaiting a hearing to-day.

THE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION.

The Ministerial Association will hold their regular monthly meeting in the usual place on Monday afternoon at two o'clock.

THE VERY LATEST.

WASHINGTON.

INSPECTION OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

The Erie Collector of Customs.

National Bank Circulation Discussed in Committee.

Latest Advices from Spain.

Serrano Government Not Recognized by Foreign Nations.

OPERATIONS OF THE CARLISTS

Castelar Still in Madrid.

Departure of the French Minister.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1874.

Inspection of Departments.

The House Committee on Civil Service and Retrenchment to-day began an inspection of the different Executive departments, with a view to ascertaining the degrees of efficiency of the clerical force and the practicability of a reduction in the number of those now employed. They but partially finished the inspection of the Treasury. In passing through the rooms visited by them, they discovered an extraordinary amount of application to business, and none of the Chiefs of Divisions were willing to admit that they could do with a smaller force. There was quite a stir in several of the bureaus over a rumor that to-morrow being the end of the month, there would be a number of discharges.

The colored Representatives, Lynch, of Mississippi, and Elliott, of South Carolina, appeared before the House Judiciary Committee to-day, and made arguments in favor of the Civil Rights bill which General Butler declared to be very powerful. The bill will not be reported for some time.

The Erie Collectorship.

Mr. Willard was to-day confirmed Collector of Customs at Erie. The expiration of the term of Mr. Gaggin and the nomination of Mr. Willard on the recommendation of Col. Curtis, the member of the district, were accepted by the Committee on Commerce as complying with usage in the matter of such nominations. It was therefore reported and acted upon at once. Senator Scott, in speaking of the matter, remarked that he had no feeling against Mr. Gaggin, but that the sending in of the name of Mr. Willard the recognized as a expression of the choice of the President, and as there were no reasons formally stated why the nominee should not be confirmed, he of course was favorably disposed.

National Bank Circulation.

The Senate Finance Committee to-day discussed the recommendation of the Comptroller of the currency to repeal the law providing for the withdrawal of twenty-five millions of the National bank circulation from States having an excess. They agreed that it is impracticable to carry out this provision, and therefore will favor its repeal.

Interest on Deposits.

The committee are also in favor of prohibiting the payment of interest on deposits by National banks.

Testing the Coin of the Realm.

The President will appoint Senator Jones, of Nevada, as the Pacific Coast member of the commission to test coins at the Philadelphia mint on February 11th. Since the establishment of the mint, one coin in every thousand tested, of all kinds, has been kept as a sample of finance and the coinage. The test these men to see whether the work of the mint has been according to law. Some of the most distinguished scientists and metallurgists in the country will be present.

The Public Debt.

The public debt statement for January will show a much smaller increase than for the last month.

Japanese Indemnity Fund.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs to-day considered a bill for the return of the Jay anese indemnity fund, and decided that they could not see why it should be returned, even upon the plea of being devoted to educational purposes in that empire.

Condition of Spanish Affairs.

Late official information received here, regarding affairs in Spain shows that, although the governments have ministers at Madrid, not one have recognized the existence of Serrano. Sagosta is preparing a manifesto to foreign governments, in which he will give an explanation of the political events which resulted in the deposition of Castelar. It is inferred that foreign governments, including the United States, are waiting for the promulgation of this before acting. It is stated that this also explains why no ministers have been received by Serrano. One important step in advance in the condition of affairs in Spain, is the reduction of Cartagena and of the intrasigente uprising. Over two thousand men engaged on a war vessel to Algeria. The vessel was surrendered by the French government. Recently there was an outbreak of the same faction in Barcelona, but it was promptly suppressed by Serrano. It is now learned that Castelar remained in Madrid and did not flee to Paris. He is a man of great moral courage, and highly esteemed, even by his enemies. The Carlists continue a guerrilla warfare in Navarre, the basque provinces and the northern parts Catalonia and Aragon. All their operations are confined to the North. They have no advocates in the central or southern parts of Spain. The Serrano government, it is stated, has all the appearance of as much permanency as can be expected in that turbulent country.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1874.

ERIE COLLECTORSHIP.

The Senate to-day confirmed the nomination of James R. Willard as Collector of Customs at Erie, Pa.

THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

to-day was more fully attended. The Centennial Committee reported a series of recommendations that each State send a representation of its educational condition to the Centennial; also the historical records of its educational progress; that cities act with States, and that the International Educational Congress be held in connection with the Centennial. Mr. Philbrick, of Boston, during the discussion stated that the best feature of the American exhibition at Vienna was the educational showing. The report was adopted. The Committee on National Aid reported resolutions favoring the establishment of a National Education Bureau and indorsing the proposition of setting apart public lands for free education in the States. President Grant visited the assembly and made no speech. Governor Shepherd made a few remarks, and Secretary Delano followed with a brief address. The convention adjourned to meet at Detroit in August.

RECALL OF THE FRENCH MINISTER.

Marquis De Noailles, the French Minister, presented his letter of recall to President Grant to-day, expressing thanks for courtesies extended him and congratulating the President upon the friendly relations existing between France and the United States, and saying that he was instructed to convey the good wishes of Marshal MacMahon, President of the French Republic. President Grant replied expressing regret at the departure of the minister, but assuring him that his mission had been advantageous to both countries, and it was his hearty desire that friendly relations between France and the United States might, if possible, be still further strengthened. He reciprocated MacMahon's kind wishes.

CRIMES.

Alleged Thief Shot and Captured.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

SPENCER, Ind., January 30, 1874.

The house of Thomas Oliver, two miles from here, was searched Wednesday night for stolen goods. Oliver made his escape until Thursday night, when he was captured after a long chase. He would not surrender, and was shot twice. He is now in jail, in a critical condition.

Wife-Murder and Suicide.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

DAYTON, O., January 30, 1874.

This morning Gottlieb Pfeister, laboring under mental aberration, cut his wife across the throat, head and arms with a butcher knife, and then cut his own throat. He died in ten minutes. His wife still survives. The horrible affair occurred at Pfeister's house in Miami City.

A Forgetful Wife and Mother.

PORTLAND, ME., January 30,—Mrs. Waller is on trial here for bigamy. Her alleged former husband, one Waite, and their children, aged eleven and seven, positively identify the woman. She is also identified by others as Mrs. Waite. The woman denies that she ever before saw Waite or the children.

The Eyass Trial.

HARRISBURG January 29.—The Evans case was resumed this morning. Ex-Governor A. G. Curtin and Governor Hartranft were the only persons examined, and their examination concluded the evidence. Attorney General Dimmick opened the argument for the Commonwealth and Messrs. Lamberton and Hall for the defense, followed. Mr. MacVeigh for the plaintiff, made the closing argument. Defendant prays the court to instruct the jury as follows: That the act of March, 1811, for the settlement of accounts, having provided plaintiff a remedy, it must be presented and there can be no recovery in this action. The Judge will charge the jury to-morrow.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

There will be two entertainments at the popular Trimble's Varieties to-day, afternoon and evening. At each of these programmes replete with novel variety acts will be presented.

Academy of Music.

On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings of next week, the Academy of Music will be occupied by Dr. Wiljalba Frickell, who will introduce feats of legerdemain, etc. The Doctor comes highly recommended by the New York *Herald* and other leading journals at the East.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1874.

SENATE.

Mr. CHANDLER presented a petition for the extension of the Money Order system to every post-office in the United States and a reduction of charges in such offices. Referred.

Mr. HAMLIN presented the memorial of the Governor of the District of Columbia in response to a certain statement made in the memorial presented a few days ago by the Senator from Ohio (Thurman), which was read. The Governor says the District officials have not sought and do not now seek to evade the fullest investigation into the affairs of the District. The report of the Committee of the House last session, sustaining the District government, and the liberal appropriation made by Congress last year encouraged the authorities of the District to go forward with the improvements, and their course has been sustained by every election in the District. In view of all the circumstances, the Governor submits that it will not be fair or just to enter upon another investigation, unless there be some show of proof of the charges made by the pretended taxpayers in the memorial presented by them. After debate, it was ordered that the memorial lie on the table.

A large number of bills were introduced in the morning hour. Among them was one authorizing the President to appoint a board of five officers to investigate the charges against Gen. O. O. Howard, which was laid over informally at the request of Mr. West. At one o'clock Mr. Carpenter rose from the floor and spoke on Louisiana affairs.

Mr. SARGENT, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the Naval Appropriation bill, with amendments, and it was placed on the calendar.

Mr. CARPENTER said he did not condemn the action of the President in any of these Louisiana proceedings, because he merely ordered that process of the Federal Court to be executed. He had no better guide than that order, should call on the troops to order its execution. He, therefore, laid no stress on any action of the President. He knows that a second Sheridan is not to be found in the Louisiana case than the one who commanded the army. He stigmatized the case of General Hoover, who had publicly expressed disparaging opinions as to General Howard, being appointed on the court of inquiry, and declared that such a case the accused should not have the right of challenge.

Mr. THORNBURG, a member of the Military Committee, favored the investigation of the charges by that committee, and promised to have the matter referred back for that purpose.

Mr. HAWLEY, of Connecticut, another member of the Military Committee, spoke at length in that committee's conducting the examination, because, if it could possibly avoid it, General Howard, his case would be as unsettled then as now. A large portion of the people would believe it was a case of political whitewashing.

Mr. WOOD asserted that the committee which investigated General Howard's case in 1871 was unfair, and he (Wood) said that himself warned against General Howard had been excluded from the committee room and not examined.

Mr. G. F. HOAR, who had been a member of that committee, repelled Mr. Wood's allegations, and said that after he (Wood) had been excluded from time of the committee, three days had been allowed General Howard, and then Wood could develop the case, which would have required witnesses to be brought from South Carolina. General Howard, he said, had never pleaded the statute of limitation for anything in his life.

Mr. WOOD retorted upon Mr. Hoar by stating that that gentleman had been the friend, counsel, adviser, defender and small legal trickster who had engineered the case of General Howard.

As soon as the word "trickster" was pronounced, the Speaker's hammer fell.

Mr. GARFIELD called Mr. Wood to order, and the Speaker declared that the expression was unparliamentary.

Mr. WOOD withdrew the word "trickster."

Mr. BOREMAN, of Kentucky, was then allowed to proceed in order. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. WHEELER—Has not the hour to which the gentleman from Indiana (Coburn) was entitled, expired?

The SPEAKER—Just this moment.

Mr. WHEELER—Then I call for the regular order of business.

Mr. WOOD—I hope my colleague will not interfere.

Mr. WHEELER—I insist on the regular order.

The Speaker then put the question on Mr. Frye's amendment, and it was adopted—yeas 172, nays 64. The joint resolution as amended was then passed. The House then proceeded to the consideration of private bills.

Mr. COX offered a joint resolution giving the thanks of Congress to the officers and crew of the steamship Atlantic for saving the crew of the ship Antine Scotland in mid-ocean. Passed. The House adjourned. To-morrow's session is to be for debate only.

A sentence in the sketch of Representative Nesmith's speech yesterday, on the subject of Indians, instead of reading as it did, should have read, "If John the Baptist had gone preaching the gospel in that wilderness, he would have kept the hair on his head twenty-four hours."

[The sentence, as originally reported, was suppressed by the COMMERCIAL.—ED.]

COLUMBUS.

The Contested Election Case for State Treasurer.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

COLUMBUS, O., January 30, 1874.

Isaac Welch, State Treasurer, whose place is contested before the Senate by the Democratic candidate, Geo. Weimer, filed his answer to the notice of contest with the Senate to-day. He cites the omission of votes really cast for him in Ashtabula, Paulding and Champaign counties, which increased his majority to 863. He cites errors in the footing of the votes, and in printing tickets, which would, if counted, give him 1,337. He also claims that if the irregularities occurring in Cuyahoga county are admitted in favor of Weimer, he will prove similar ones in ten or twelve other counties, which would increase his majority to over 6,000. The case is appointed for trial before the Senate on February 11th, and as it is the first time such a case has occurred under the present Constitution, it excites no little interest.

FIRE RECORD.

Cruelius Lock Factory Damaged.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CRESTLINE, O., January 30, 1874.

A fire broke out in the lock factory of A. F. Whiting & Co., at half-past eight o'clock this evening, which burned the finishing and japanning rooms in the west end of the building. The sheeting of the roof was also badly burned, but, it being of slate, the fire did not break through. The fire originated in the japanning room. The building, stock and machinery were insured for nearly $30,000. The damage to the stock is about $5,000, and about the same amount to the building. Our water works protected the valuable part of the entire building and stock would have been consumed but for their efficiency.

Fires in Cincinnati and Sharonville.

CINCINNATI, January 30.—About a quarter past one o'clock this morning a fire broke out in the building owned and occupied by L. A. Strabel & Bros., manufacturers of moulding, frames and looking glasses, on the south side of Canal street, east of Elm. The building and its contents were entirely consumed. The loss is about $40,000. Insurance, $20,000, divided among the following companies: Brewers, London and Liverpool; Etna, Cincinnati; Union and Phoenix.

The Sharonville Hotel at Sharonville, this county, was destroyed by fire about two o'clock yesterday morning. The fire progressed so rapidly that the inmates barely escaped with their lives.

Very Destructive Fire at Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, January 30.—A fire broke out at seven o'clock this evening in the fourth story of the wholesale clothing establishment of Kock, Goldshith, Joseph & Co., corner of Water and St. Clair streets. The two upper stories were burned out. The fire is still raging and has extended to and entirely destroyed the large hardware store of Washington & Co., in the same building. It is now under control. The loss will be heavy, and is estimated as follows: Worthington & Co., on building, $75,000 to $80,000; on stock $215,000 to $225,000—insured for $175,000; Koch, Goldsmith, Joseph & Co., on stock, $250,000—insured for $200,000; Adams & Goodwille, clothiers, damage to stock by water unknown. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE WEATHER

Midnight Bulletin.

JANUARY 30, 1874—10:48 P. M.

PLACE OF OBSERVATION.	Ther.	Wind.	Weather.
Cairo	38	N.	Cloudy.
Cincinnati, O	50	N. W.	Clear.
Davenport	15	N. E.	Fair.
Fort Gibson	32	N. W.	Cloudy.
Indianapolis	34	N. W.	Cloudy.
Leavenworth	20	N.	Cloudy.
Leavenworth	21	N. E.	Cloudy.
Louisville, Ky	41	N. W.	Cloudy.
Memphis, Tenn	55	S. W.	Cloudy.
Nashville, Tenn	50	Calm.	Clear.
New Orleans	63	E.	Clear.
Pittsburgh, Pa	35	N. W.	Cloudy.
Shreveport, La	54	E.	Fair.
St. Louis, Mo	41	S.	Cloudy.
St. Paul	6	N.	Fair.
Vicksburg	55	S. E.	Clear.
LaCrosse	13	N.	Cloudy.

STATE NEWS.

Mr. Abram Cohn, of Lancaster, who was a soldier under the first Napoleon in 1813-14, celebrated his eightieth birthday on the 25th inst.

An Altoona man has just presented to the editor of the *Tribune* a piece of soap which had been in the donor's possession for sixty years. It took that chap a long time to make up his mind not to wash himself.

Frederick Clemens, aged nine years, and Ephraim Weitzel, aged twelve, broke through the ice at Reading while skating, on Wednesday, and were drowned.

Fifty gun carriages for nine-inch guns are being made by a Reading establishment, for the Ordnance Department of the navy.

The Welshmen of Hyde Park, Luzerne county, don't like the way in which the bank in that place is managed, and propose to start one of their own.

The first loads of corundum from the Chester county mines were delivered at the mills at Kennett Square, on the 20th.

The kaolin found in Chester county is said by the porcelain manufacturers to be equal to the finest found in the world.

A child of Mr. James Neeley, of Livermore, Westmoreland county, was burned to death on Sunday last, by its clothes taking fire at the grate of a stove. The child was aged about three years, and died in three hours after the sad occurrence.

Prospect shaft, of the Lehigh Coal Company, about one and a half miles from Wilkesbarre, took fire on Saturday from an explosion of gas. The timber below is all on fire, and considerable damage seems inevitable. The smoke from the burning shaft can be seen from a great distance, rising as it does, two hundred feet above the opening. There are three mines on fire in that vicinity, the Prospect, the old Baltimore and the Empire, all within a circle of two miles.

Each member of a Scranton intemperance society is allowed to drink all he can get, but is fined ten dollars for paying for any intoxicating drink whatever, whether for himself or another.

Two parties to a lawsuit arrived in West Chester on Monday and went to the same hotel. The house being full, they were assigned to the same bedroom. The result was that they settled the matter amicably without troubling the court.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT RETURNED.

LONDON, January 30.—Midnight.—The nomination of members of Parliament began to-day. Messrs. Bright, Dixon and Muntz, former members, are returned from Birmingham without opposition. Karslake is returned from Huntingdon, and Col. Cline, a Conservative, from Frome. The Liberals did not attempt to contest the latter borough, which has been represented for the last five years by Thos. Hughes. Dispatches received up to this hour show that seven Liberals and ten Conservatives have been returned, the Conservatives gaining one member at Frome. Dr. Butt has retired from the contest of Manchester, and Nolan from that of Greenwich.

SPEECHES OF CANDIDATES.

Several of the city candidates addressed their constituents to-night.

Baron Rothschild said that in his opinion Mr. Gladstone's promised remission of taxes would involve a loss of nine million sterling to the revenue. He suggested that the deficiency should be met by a system of licenses for all persons engaged in trade and commerce.

Mr. Goschen declared himself in favor of the integrity of the empire, by which he meant no home rule, and the maintenance of the present relations with the colonies. He honed the Ashantee war would not cost over a million pounds. He favored the advancement of the working classes by education and the removal of burdensome taxation, but was opposed to the government providing employment for them in times of scarcity, because such relief would sap the spirit of independence. Mr. Wm. H. Smith, Conservative candidate for Westminster, also spoke at a public meeting. He stated that during his recent visit to the United States he had full opportunity to observe the universally corrupting tendencies of democratic institutions, which the Liberals sought to introduce into England.

Germany.

BELGIAN SYMPATHY WITH ULTRAMONTANES.

BERLIN, January 30.—The North German *Gazette*, alluding to the sympathy manifested in Belgium for the German Ultramontanes, declares that every government is bound to check the disposition of its subjects to participate in revolutionary attempts against a friendly power.

Marine News.

QUEENSTOWN, January 30.—Steamships Russia and Wyoming, from New